ONTEORA
CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
BOICEVILLE, NEW YORK 12412

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING
6:00 p.m.
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2024
WOODSTOCK SCHOOL

1. Opening Items

1.01 Call to Order 6:00

1.02 Tobacco Policy Statement

1.03 Pledge of Allegiance

1.04 Roll Call: Present: Trustee Knutsen, Trustee Jerome, Trustee Hemingway Lynch, Trustee Reimondo, Trustee Bishop
Not Present: Trustee Goodrich, Trustee Mitchell-Marell

2. Welcome

2.01 Woodstock Elementary School Principal, Scott Richards will welcome the Board

- Mr. Richards started by welcoming the Board of Education back to the building
- He also reviewed all of the Capital Project work that had been done at the Woodstock Building over the summer
    - New ventilation system
    - New interior, classroom, and exterior doors
    - Additional flooring
- Mr. Richards also wanted to mention that the teachers did a great job prepping their classrooms and that the custodial staff did an amazing job preparing the building for the first day of school
- Students had a great first day and he reported that it was nice to see fourth grade students in the building. He indicated that having older students changes the environment and that the fourth graders are already acting as mentors tot the younger students

Now Present:

Trustee Mitchell-Marell arrived at 6:03 pm

3. Award Tenure

3.01 The Board of Education will Recognize Tenure

The following named INSTRUCTIONAL PERSONNEL, having served a period of probationary status consistent with the Education Law of the State of New York and provisions of the Commissioner's Regulations, and having received continuing satisfactory evaluations of performance, has been recommended and

granted tenure status by the by the Superintendent of Schools and the Board of Education.
With a probationary period of 03/19/2020 to 03/18/2024 certified Teaching Assistant, Carrie Mickler is being recognized for having received tenure effective 03/19/2024, with Board approval on 7/2/2024.

4. Presentations

4.01 Mike Camargo and Amanda Dixon from PEPTalks360 will Review Virtual Family Support Training Provided to the District and Recommendations Moving Forward (duration 10 min)

5. Acceptance of Minutes

5.01 Acceptance of Minutes

Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby accepts minutes of August 27,2024

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

6. Superintendent District News

6.01 The Superintendent will report District News

Board President Bishop has received a NYSSBA award - the “Board Excellence Award” - congratulations!

Start of School
The opening of the school this year was one of the smoothest to date. Our Transportation department and our contractor did an excellent job and many of our bus runs are shorter this year due to the efficiencies of having fewer total bus runs at the elementary level. Some of the bus runs that were persistently late are no longer. This is a welcome change. Our students are doing well - the integration of sixth grade into the Middle School has been a wonderful change. A number of Middle School and High School faculty noted to us that the sixth graders came in with a sense of enthusiasm that they are not accustomed to with the traditional seventh graders. I know we also noticed this energy shift. Just seeing them walk through the building between classes and in the lunchroom, I too was involuntarily smiling.

Student Board Representative
I’m excited to welcome Olivia McHugh to the Board table. I’ve asked Principal Edelman to schedule a meeting with Miss McHugh and I so that I can share the Board policy with her and answer any questions she might have about the role.

We have been fortunate to have many exceptional students in this role in previous years and I'm sure she will continue this tradition.

Cell Phone Policy
We have been pleased with our students and the new cell phone policy. It has certainly been noted to me personally that our students are more engaged without the distraction of the phone.

Phoenicia Building
We have had continued correspondence with the County Executive's office regarding the Phoenicia campus. I would encourage board members and members of the public to communicate to the County Executive and legislators the desire to move forward with the reuse of this building that can be a community asset. We are meeting with representatives from the County and the Town at the campus this week so that they can walk around and become familiar with the building and the property.

Superintendent Goals:
I'd like to propose that my goals this year continue the work we began last year and add on an additional area of focus. We need to continue to work toward the capital project and the vote that will be in May of this school year.

In addition, I'd like to continue to focus on our communications plan in conjunction with the Board communications committee.

Those initiatives will be time consuming and require a significant amount of work, but I also plan on moving forward to support the resolution adopted by the Board related to Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging.

Update on Capital Project and Vote
We have had one Sharon Lipovsky meeting in which we discussed the scope of work that Ms. Lipovsky could consider for the current school year that will build upon the work we partnered on last year. She is planning to bring a proposal to us that we can bring to the Board at the next meeting in September. We are also meeting with our architects to review the timeline for this year and once we have Ms. Lipovsky's agreement in place, it is imperative that she work closely with both us and our architect. We had high level discussion of the plan for this year including how to bring student voice as well as faculty and staff voice into our process, and the need for there to be multiple opportunities to bring draft plans to our community for review and discussion so that we utilize community input to refine them before we bring anything to a vote. This is a process that will need to include as many voices as possible.

Olive Day
I attended Olive Day along with many of our Board Trustees. It was so nice to have the opportunity to speak to many of our community members. Thank you to the organizers of Olive Day for including us in the celebration and for dedicating the design of the Olive Day shirt to our Bennett Elementary school.

7. Board District News

7.01 The Board will report District News

- Trustee Reimondo reported that Olive Day this year was such a great event even with the rain
    - Trustee Bishop reported that it was happy to sit next to the Booster Club at Olive Day
    - Trustee Hemingway Lynch also mentioned that Olive Day was a great experience and that it was great that the community was able to engage with Superintendent McLaren.
    - Trustee Hemingway Lynch also wanted to thank the Buildings and Grounds Department for setting up and breaking down the tent, table, and chairs

8. Acknowledge Public Be Heard Comments

8.01 The Board will acknowledge the public be heard comments from the last meeting

no one spoke

9. Public and Student Comment

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

The Board appreciates hearing from the public, including students, on any agenda or non- agenda item. Please understand that by our adopted parliamentary procedure, the Board can't engage in discussion or answer questions during Public Be Heard. Please know that we hear you and take all your comments into consideration. The Board does reserve the right to correct any inaccuracies or misinformation during Public Be Heard. Please limit your comments to 3 minutes, be civil, and do not name any particular individuals or promote any commercial ventures or products. People wishing to express individual student or personnel concerns can bring them to the Superintendent's attention in private.

10. Discussion and Possible Action

10.01 Approve Student Representative of the Board

Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby approves Olivia McHugh as the Student Representative of the Board of Education for the 2024-2025 school year.

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

10.02 Continued Discussion on Board Self Evaluation (duration 10 min)

- The Board discussed that after they complete their self-evaluations, they will plan to schedule a board retreat to discuss the possibility of professional development training

10.03 Continued discussion on Public Library Funding

- Superintendent for Business, Monica LaClair reported that the Olive Free Library declined adding a proposition onto the ballot for the May 20, 2025 vote.
- Mrs. LaClair also mentioned that there is now a process in place that will be sent to any library requesting a proposition to be added to the ballot

10.04 Continued discussion on creating a Board Dashboard (duration 10 min)

- Trustee Hemingway Lynch spoke that her idea of a dashboard is have data in one place to see a bigger picture to make data driven decisions
    - Potential to organize board goals and ask administration to supply data for those goals
    - Evidence based decisions for preparation
    - The dashboard acts as a management tool to help with decision making
    - WIG- wildly important goal, helps bring together community and belonging
- Trustee Jerome indicating that this helps strengthen organization but is aware that the board will need to find what will bring value and that this will be a longer conversation
- Superintendent McLaren mentioned that the district already uses data to make data-based decisions in multiple ways
- Trustee Reimondo proposed three questions
    - Data always provided by administration, so what additional value would this bring
    - The cost of the dashboard product
    - Who will be managing the dashboard

10.05 Discuss the Creation of the 2024-2025 Board Goals (duration 30 mins)

- Trustee Bishop started the conversation by reporting that Superintendent McLaren has given her proposed goals and that the district has big initiatives going on this year, the biggest being the capital project and the protentional for the bond vote on May 20, 2025
- Trustee Bishop is hoping to have one of the goals be to move forward on the DEI initiative resolution and to continue to work on the long-term communication plan

- Trustee Jerome suggested that she would like to see more specificity in the music and the arts programs
- Trustee Hemingway Lynch mentioned that she liked that the 23-24 board goal focused on the long-term plan and not on a capital project because the goal is "bigger than our buildings"
- Trustee Mitchell-Marell reported that she would like to keep the language "21st century global citizenship" from the 23-24 goal in the 24-25 goal.
    - She wants to portray that Onteora is a progressive school in the hopes it will help with enrollment
- Trustee Hemingway Lynch asked what the appetite would be around a communications campaign as the district thinks about the lead up to the May 20, 2025 Budget and Election vote and communicating with the community about what the district is trying to achieve
- Trustee Bishop ended the discussion by stating that the Board has three ideas that need to be molded into a statement.
    - Mission is to start working on wording and continue to discuss the goal at the next meeting.
    - Trustee Bishop hopes to have a final goal be approved at the October 8, 2024 meeting

2023-2024 Board Goals
Support the development of a district wide long term plan that centers students' equitable access to high quality, modern student-centered programs that serve our district mission of fostering productive 21st century global citizenship

10.06 Discussion of 2024 NYSSBA Proposed Resolutions

- Proposed date and time to hold a special meeting to vote on NYSSBA proposed resolutions
    - September 30, 2024 9:00 am in Central Administration

11. **Break**

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

12. Consent Agenda

12.01 Approve Consent Agenda

Recommended Action: The Board hereby approves item numbers 12:02 -12.06

Motioned: Trustee Reimondo
Seconded: Trustee Knutsen
Result: Unanimous

Yea: Trustee Knutsen, Trustee Mitchell-Marell, Trustee Hemingway Lynch, Trustee Reimondo, Trustee Bishop
Not Present: Trustee Goodrich

12.02 Inter-School Transfers

Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby approves the following Inter-School Transfers:
1st grade from Woodstock to Bennett;
1st grade from Woodstock to Bennett;
Kindergarten from Woodstock to Bennett

12.03 Memorandum of Agreement between OCSD and OTA

Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby approves the Memorandum of Agreement # 09102024 between the Onteora Central School District and the Onteora Teachers Association to amend the Schedule H stipend position for the 2024-2025 school year as attached.

12.04 Personnel Agenda

EXTRA DUTY STIPENDS

NAME	POSITION	AMOUNT
Downs, Kelly	MS Robotics Club	$1,350.00
Keenan, Bryan	HS Science Olympiad- Head Coach	$2,756.00

TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT: INSTRUCTIONAL

NAME	POSITION/SCHOOL	EFFECTIVE DATE	RATE
Grant, Helene	Special Education Teacher /Bennett	10/15/24 – 06/30/25*	Leave Replacement, MA Step 1
Tauro, Gina	Special Education Teacher/Bennett	02/03/25 – 06/30/25*	Leave Replacement, MA Step 1

anticipated end date

12.05 Warrants

Recommended Action: The Board of Education has reviewed and hereby accepts Warrants Schedule 1

12.06 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, #9/24, Confidential, as reviewed by Trustee Hemingway Lynch

13. Contracts and Independent Contractor Retainers

13.01 Approve all Contracts and Independent Contractor Retainers

Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby approves item numbers 13.02 -13.04

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

13.02 Imagine Learning 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 Imagine Learning for Professional Development effective September 1, 2024 to August 31, 2025 at a maximum rate of $10,000.00 to be funded through title grant, with no fringe benefits or deductions and authorizes the Superintendent to sign such an agreement.

13.03 Morningside Center for Teaching Social Responsibility

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 Morningside Center for Teaching Social Responsibility for Professional Development effective September 16, 2024 to June 30, 2025 at a rate not to exceed $30,000.00 to be funded through title grant, with no fringe benefits or deductions and authorizes the Superintendent to sign such an agreement.

13.04 PEPTalks360

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 Michael Camargo and Amanda Dixon PEPTalks360 retained as Presenter/Consultant effective September 11, 2024 to June 30, 2025 at a rate of $300/hour to a maximum rate of $5,000.00 with no fringe benefits or deductions and authorizes the Superintendent to sign such an agreement.

14. Committee Reports

14.01 Audit Committee

- Nothing to report

14.02 Communications Committee

- Trustee Jerome reported that the committee met yesterday, September 9,2024 and established the framework for the upcoming Board Briefs
- BOCES also provided the long-term strategy plan to the committee

14.03 Facilities Committee

- Nothing to report

14.04 Legislative Action Committee

- Nothing to report

14.05 Policy Committee

- Trustee Bishop reported that the committee met yesterday, September 9, 2024 and reviewed many policies that will be on the September 24, 2024 board agenda as a first reading

15. Old Business

15.01 The Board will discuss Old Business

- Trustee Hemingway Lynch asked Superintendent McLaren based on the Superintendent news update, what the board should be asking from the County Executives
    - Ms. McLaren said that it would be in support for the county in partnership with the Town of Shandaken to purchase Phoenicia building
- Trustee Knutsen asked if the board should be reaching out as a board member or as a community member
    - Superintendent McLaren said the reach out should be as a community member

16. New Business

16.01 The Board will discuss New Business

- Trustee Mitchell-Marell asked for the Community Events Google Doc to be updated

- Trustee Reimondo asked the District Clerk to schedule the annual Ulster BOCES tour and the Onteora school building tours

17. Request for Information

17.01 Board members will request information of the Superintendent

- Nothing requested

18. Adjournment

18.01 Adjourn the Meeting. Next meeting is September 24, 2024 at Bennett.)

Recommended Action: Motion to adjourn meeting at 7:27 pm.

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

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