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

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING
6:00 p.m.
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2024
MS/HS AUDITORIUM

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 Mitchell-Marell, Trustee Goodrich, Trustee Hemingway Lynch, Trustee Reimondo, Trustee Bishop

2. Proposed Executive Session

2.01 Enter Executive Session (duration 30 min)

Recommended Action: Motion to enter into executive session to review the Building Level Safety Plans and to discuss the employment of a particular employee

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

2.02 Exit Executive Session

Recommended Action: Motion to exit executive session and return to public session

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

3. Welcome

3.01 Middle School Principal, James DiDonna will welcome the Board (duration 10 min)

- Mr. DiDonna started by reporting that the Onteora Board of Education had their Middle/High School building tour yesterday, October 7, 2024
- He also reported that the sixth-grade students are adjusting very well in the Middle School

- He mentioned that many of the students were anxious about the thought of not being able to get to their locker on time, but noted that the students have settled into their routines very quickly and teachers are in the hallway helping them as needed in between classes
- Mr. DiDonna also noted that the students all seem very happy and to date minimal issues have been reported
- The outdoor eating area has been a huge benefit. Approximately 80% of the students are utilizing the outdoor spaces
    - Mr. DiDonna stated that it is scientifically proven that fresh air is very important for the students to have during the school day
- New furniture was purchased for the sixth-grade classrooms
    - Group desks instead of individual desks are now being used
- The entire faculty has made the sixth-graders feel welcome and are able to get them the support they need
- The Middle/High School students have dedicated bathrooms
- The Middle School Dance is on Friday, October 25, 2024 and all Middle School students will be invited to attend
- Intermural Sports for sixth grade students start tomorrow, October 9, 2024
- Cell phone usage update
    - Students are asked to put their phones in their lockers at the beginning of the day and Mr. DiDonna is happy to report that he hasn't seen cell phones during the day
    - The students are better engaged, less arguments, and because students do not have cell phones, there are no social networks influences during the day

4. Acceptance of Minutes

4.01 Acceptance of Minutes

Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby accepts minutes of September 24, 2024 and September 30, 2024

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

5. Presentations

5.01 Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, Stephanie Laffin will present on the Upcoming Proposed Changes in Graduation Requirements (duration 20 min)

6. Superintendent District News

6.01 The Superintendent will report District News

Commissioner's Decision
We received the official decision from Commissioner Rosa regarding the appeal that was filed with respect to the closure of the Phoenicia Elementary School. The commissioner has affirmed the action of the Board of Education and has dismissed the appeal.

Blue Ribbon Commission Ambassador Program
The event being held at Ulster BOCES on Thursday night will give interested members of the community an opportunity to learn more about the proposed vision for New York schools resulting from the New York State Education Department's Blue Ribbon Commission on Graduation Measures.
The program will include:
1) An overview of the NYS Education Department's proposed vision for implementing the
recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Commission on Graduation Measures.
2) Opportunities to provide feedback on the four proposed transformations and to identify the opportunities and challenges related to the proposed transformations.
Location: Jane Bullowa Conference Center, 175 Route 32 North, New Paltz, NY 12561
Date: Thursday, October 10, 2024
Time: 5 pm-7 pm
Regionalization Initiative
We have begun to complete the needs and resources assessment tool that is being required by the NYS Education Department, and I will be attending a meeting on Friday at Putnam Northern Westchester BOCES for Superintendents to learn more about this initiative.

Homecoming
Homecoming was another incredibly well-attended and successful event this year. Although I can't possibly thank everyone who contributed to the success of this event, I want to thank Jonnah O'Donnell and Leah Smith in the athletic department, our administrative team, all of the coaches and club advisors, as well as the Booster Club for all of the hard work and support they provide to make the day special for our students. Also, the entire buildings and grounds department deserves a special thank you - they make sure that everyone has everything they need for the games, provide power to all of the booths, and just help to ensure that the day runs smoothly. This event is a massive undertaking and it provides a wonderful opportunity for our students to shine and for our community to come and engage with the District. I was fortunate to be able to share the booth with our Board Trustees and meet members of our community and provide free popcorn to anyone who stopped by.

Space Utilization Study
Although I had hoped to share the space utilization study at tonight's meeting, we are not quite there yet. The architects have proposed the space required for the central elementary school, but we need to review it from a programmatic

perspective. This afternoon we had both elementary principals and both Asst. Superintendents reviewing it together. The architects also did an initial draft of the space utilization of the middle high school, but they are coming to the building to review it with the Principals as well so that they truly understand how the classrooms are being utilized currently. We will share this as soon as it is finalized.

Community Forums
We had our first meeting as a team last week with Sharon Lipovsky and our architects to establish the tentative plan for the year. We are anticipating hosting three community forums. We have tentatively targeted the first to be during the first week of December, the second to be during the week of January 13th, and the third to be during the week of February 24th. We will share more as we finalize the dates and communication will be forthcoming.

Middle and High School Progress Reports
Attention High School and Middle School Families: Quarter 1 Progress Reports are now available online through the student/parent portal under "Documents."

School Board Recognition Week
October 14-18 is school board recognition week. School board members take on one of the most important citizen responsibilities: overseeing the education of the community's youth. Boards of education guide their local school systems and ensure public schools are flexible and responsive to the needs of the community. School boards are comprised of volunteers, who do not receive any compensation for their service. They are individuals within the community who dedicate their time to improving public education. School board members statewide collectively oversee nearly 2.25 million K-12 students and $86.3 billion in budgeted spending. New York has 688 public school districts, each with its own board of education. There are 5,096 board seats in New York. 49.2 % are held by male board members and 50.8% by female board members and about two-thirds of board members spend 6 hours or more per week on board activities. This is truly a commitment to the community and on behalf of the District, I would like to thank our Board for all they do to support our students.

7. Board District News

7.01 The Board will report District News

- Trustee Bishop reported that Homecoming on September 28, 2024 was a lot of fun
- Trustee Bishop also noted that the NYSSBA Annual Business meeting is October 10, 2024 and Trustee Knutsen will be the voting delegate and will be voting on proposed resolutions
- Finally, Trustee Bishop mentioned that the presidential election is on November 5, 2024 and she hopes that everyone takes advantage of their right to vote

- Trustee Goodrich wanted to report that he enjoyed the Middle/High School Tour and was very amazed by it

8. Student Representative Report

8.01 The Student Representative on the Board, Olivia McHugh, will give a report

- Ms. McHugh reported that Homecoming was a success! Students were able to support our sports teams on Friday, as well as enjoy the tailgate sponsored by the Booster club. On Saturday, students volunteered and supported various fundraising booths and came to watch the additional games. Following homecoming day festivities, students returned to the school for the homecoming dance. We thank all the chaperones that made the homecoming dance possible.
- Additionally, today, Students received their ID Cards.

9. Annual Appointments

9.01 Appointments

Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby approves the updated Appointments of District Officers.

~~Interim Claims Auditor:~~	~~Janet Dymond~~	
Claims Auditor:	Sierra Smith	$6,500/year (prorated)

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

10. Acknowledge Public Be Heard Comments

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

no one spoke

11. Public and Student Comment

11.01 Public and Students may comment on any agenda or non-agenda item (proposed 7:15)

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.

12. Discussion and Possible Action

12.01 Continued Discussion on the Creation of the 2024-2025 District Goals (duration 45 mins)

- The Board trustees had a lengthy conversation surrounding the 2024-2025 District Goals and decided that they need additional time to create their goal and will vote on it at a future meeting

13. **Break**

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

14. Consent Agenda

14.01 Approve Consent Agenda

Recommended Action: The Board hereby approves item numbers 14:02 -14.09

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

14.02 Approve Building Level Safety Plans

Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby approves the Bennett, Middle/High, and Woodstock Building Level Safety Plans for the 2024-2025 School Year

14.03 Approve Corrective Action Plan

Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby approves the Corrective Action Plan for the school year ended June 30, 2024, as attached.

14.04 Approve CPSE and CSE Committee Members

Recommended Action: BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District upon recommendation by the Superintendent of Schools that the CPSE and CSE membership for the 2024-2025 School Year is hereby approved, as attached

14.05 Approve Volunteers

Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby approves the following volunteers for Woodstock Elementary School:
Sara Brasseur
Charlet Cairo
Julia Hausman

Camila Reynolds
Savannah Russo

14.06 Personnel Agenda

EXTRA DUTY STIPENDS

NAME	POSITION	AMOUNT
Armstrong, Mark	SAT Prep (After School)	$1,676.00
Nelsen-Epstein, Christi	French Club Advisor- HS	$2,000.00
Sanders, Douglas	Science Olympiad- HS Assistant Coach	$1,566.00

SUBSTITUTE

NAME	POSITION	RATE
Burt, Edward*	Teacher (certified)	$150.00/day
Felder, Susan*	Teacher (uncertified)	$115.00/day
Stockbridge, Elizabeth*	Teacher (uncertified)	$115.00/day
Wedd, Beatrice*	Teacher (uncertified)	$115.00/day

pending pre-employment processing

LEAVE OF ABSENCE: ADMINISTRATIVE

EMPLOYEE NUMBER	EFFECTIVE DATE FROM -TO	REASON
092324	09/23/24 – 11/12/24	Paid Administrative Leave

LEAVE OF ABSENCE: INSTRUCTIONAL

EMPLOYEE NUMBER	EFFECTIVE DATE FROM -TO	REASON
1959	09/13/24 – 06/24/25	Intermittent paid FMLA

LEAVE OF ABSENCE: NON-INSTRUCTIONAL

EMPLOYEE NUMBER	EFFECTIVE DATE FROM -TO	REASON
4188	09/27/24 – 10/14/24	Paid FMLA

TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT: NON-INSTRUCTIONAL

NAME	POSITION	EFFECTIVE DATE	PAY RATE
Riley-Weir, Madeleine	Monitor (Bus Attendant)	10/09/24	Step 6

APPOINTMENT: NON-INSTRUCTIONAL

NAME	POSITION	EFFECTIVE DATE	REMARKS
Hilty, Annalisa	Monitor (Bus Attendant)	10/09/24	Increase hrs. from 32.5 to 35

14.07 Financial Report

Recommended Action: The Board has reviewed and hereby accepts the Financial Report from July 2024

14.08 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 items as surplus and authorizes the sale, public auction and/or disposal of these items.

14.09 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, #10/24, Confidential, as reviewed by Trustee Goodrich

15. Policies

15.01 First Reading of Policy 7614 Preschool Special Education

Motion to wave second reading and adopt Policy 4212

Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby adopts Policy 7614 as written
Motioned: Trustee Reimondo
Seconded: Trustee Goodrich
Result: Unanimous
Yea: Trustee Knutsen, Trustee Jerome, Trustee Mitchell-Marell, Trustee Goodrich, Trustee Hemingway Lynch, Trustee Reimondo, Trustee Bishop

15.02 Second Reading and Adoption of Policy 4212 Organizational Chart

Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby adopts Policy 4212 as written

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

15.03 Second Reading and Adoption of Policy 6112 The Rights of Employees to Express Breast Milk in the Workplace

Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby adopts Policy 6112 as written

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

15.04 Second Reading and Adoption of Policy 7611.1 Public Report on Revisions to District Policies, Practices, and Procedures upon a Finding of Significant Disproportionality

Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby adopts Policy 7611.1 as written

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

15.05 Second Reading and Adoption of Policy 7611.2 Special Education Personnel

Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby adopts Policy 7611.2 as written

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

15.06 Second Reading and Adoption of Policy 7611.3 Programs and Services for Parentally-Placed Nonpublic School Students with Disabilities

Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby adopts Policy 7611.3 as written

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

15.07 Second Reading and Adoption of Policy 7617 Declassification of Students with Disabilities

Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby adopts Policy 7617 as written

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

16. Committee Reports

16.01 Audit Committee

- Nothing to report

16.02 Communications Committee

- Trustee Jerome reported that the committee met yesterday, October 7, 2024 and outlined topics for the Board Briefs with Holly Brooker. The committee also started to have the conversation around the best form of communication the community prefers based on the survey that was completed

16.03 Facilities Committee

- Nothing to report

16.04 Legislative Action Committee

- Nothing to report

16.05 Policy Committee

- Nothing to report

17. Old Business

17.01 The Board will discuss Old Business

- Nothing to report

18. New Business

18.01 The Board will discuss New Business

- Nothing to report

19. Request for Information

19.01 Board Members will Request Information of the Superintendent

- Trustee Mitchell- Marell asked why the elementary schools aren't teaching Spanish
- Trustee Hemingway Lynch asked if there is criteria or process on sixth grade students attending Middle School events
    - Superintendent McLaren reported that sixth grade students can attend all Middle School events and offerings.
    - The exception was the Homecoming Tailgate, and that was only because of the lack of supervision for that specific event
- Trustee Goodrich asked if the increase in Kindergarten enrollment was expected
    - Superintendent reported that the Kindergarten enrollment is in line with the projections

20. Adjournment

20.01 Adjourn the Meeting. Next meeting is November 12, 2024 at Woodstock.

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

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