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

MINUTES

WORKSHOP MEETING
6:00 p.m.
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2025
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: Trustee Knutsen, Trustee Jerome, Trustee Goodrich, Trustee Reimondo, Trustee Bishop

Not Present: Trustee Hemingway Lynch, Trustee Mitchell-Marell

Now Present:

Trustee Hemingway Lynch arrived at 6:01 pm

2. Welcome

2.01 Woodstock Principal, Scott Richards will welcome the Board (duration 10 min)

3. Proposed Executive Session

3.01 Enter Executive Session (duration 30 min)

Recommended Action: Motion to enter into executive session to discuss the employment of a particular person

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

Not Present: Trustee Mitchell-Marell

3.02 Exit Executive Session

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

Motioned: Trustee Goodrich
Seconded: Trustee Knutsen

Result: Unanimous
Yea: Trustee Knutsen, Trustee Jerome, Trustee Goodrich, Trustee Hemingway Lynch, Trustee Reimondo, Trustee Bishop

Not Present: Trustee Mitchell-Marell

4. Presentations

4.01 Assistant Superintendent for Business, Monica LaClair will present the Preliminary 2025-2026 Budget Forecast and Tax Levy Limit (duration 20 min)

4.02 Optimizing Onteora Continued Conversation Scope and Funding Considerations (duration 30 min)

4.03 Discuss the Structure of the Capital Improvement Proposition's for the May 20, 2025, Vote (duration 30 min)

5. Acceptance of Minutes

5.01 Acceptance of Minutes

Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby accepts minutes of the February 4, 2024 meeting.

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

6. Superintendent District News

6.01 The Superintendent will report District News

- Weather
  The weather gods were smiling down upon us when they sent this last storm over the weekend. If that had happened during the week, we may have been out of school for more than one day. We have used three snow days so far, and have four remaining. We are getting closer and closer to spring (March 20th is the official first day of spring) and I can't wait to stop worrying about weather and not be on the phone at 4:30 in the morning.

- National PTA Founders Day
  Yesterday was national PTA Founders day and I'd like to take a moment to recognize and appreciate all of our PTA members and the leaders of our PTAs and also our Booster Club. The incredible individuals who selflessly volunteer their time and effort to make our students' time in the District as special as

possible are so valuable to our district. So thank you to all of you for all that you do for our students.

- Community Forum
  Our last community forum is scheduled for Tuesday of next week. We are so excited to be at this stage in the process of creating this incredible campus for our students and our community. The RSVP is open and it would be wonderful if everyone could respond so that we can set up the room accordingly. But also please know that if you join us without RSVPing, we will be happy to see you and have you participate.

- Hudson Valley One Article
  I was disappointed to read the Hudson Valley One article last week that had a few very major inaccuracies. The article indicated that the propositions for the May ballot related to the capital project were final and also indicated that Bennett elementary would become a K-8 building. I had several email exchanges with the reporter and a phone conversation with the publisher. They apologized for the inaccuracies and corrected the article online, but I don't believe they were able to alter the print version. This was unfortunately a very misleading article and I'm hopeful that they will be more accurate in the future.

7. Board District News

7.01 The Board will report District News

- Trustee Hemingway Lynch wanted to acknowledge the dedication of Onteora's music department staff
- Trustee Knutsen is happy to announce that he will be will accompanying the Onteora vocal groups in the Music of Our Schools event on March 13, 2025

8. Student Representative Report

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

- Exciting news from the high school
  - General interest meetings for the Human Rights Club and Math Club will be this week. If students show interest, we will plan to ask to have these clubs approved at the next board meeting. Additionally, Spring Sports are expected to begin early March.
- Upcoming events include the Powder-Buff game, a volleyball game in which boys play and girls coach, on March 6th and Trivia Night on Wednesday, March 5th.
- This week Harvard Model Congress will be traveling to Boston. On February 24th, the art department will be visiting Dia Beacon for a field trip.

9. Acknowledge Public Be Heard Comments

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

Jillian Kahn Urrutia
Kara Colevas

10. Public and Student Comment

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

- Daniel Souweine
- Jillian Kahn Urrutia
- Jessica Wisneski

11. **Break**

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

12. Discussion and Possible Action

12.01 Shandaken Town Supervisor to Discuss Town's Request to Acquire Phoenicia Elementary School

- Mr. DiSclafani stated that acquiring the Phoenicia School building would be highly beneficial for the town. However, a community discussion and board approval would be required before moving forward with the purchase.
- He also noted that the request is for the district to sell the building to the town for $1.00.00
- Additionally, he highlighted potential uses for the building, such as a community recreation center, daycare, dentist's office, and more.

12.02 Ulster BOCES Board Seat Vacancies Nominations

Nominations will be accepted until Friday, March 21, 2025.

Members of a BOCES Board are nominated by resolution of one or more of the school boards of its component districts. The resolution must be provided to the Board Clerk of the BOCES Board at least 30 days prior to the date of the election, as designated by the BOCES President (April 22, 2025) (Section 1950 (2-a) (b)).

- Superintendent McLaren and the board trustees discussed a potential candidate interested in running for the BOCES board seat. The board will continue this discussion at the next meeting and plans to bring it to a vote on March 18, 2025.

13. Consent Agenda

13.01 Approve Consent Agenda

Recommended Action: The Board hereby approves item numbers 13:02 -13.07

Motioned: Trustee Reimondo
Seconded: Trustee Goodrich
Result: Unanimous

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

13.02 Personnel Agenda

EXTRA DUTY STIPENDS

NAME	POSITION	AMOUNT
Buono, Gabriel	Summer School Principal	$5,500.00

LEAVE OF ABSENCE: ADMINISTRATIVE

EMPLOYEE NUMBER	EFFECTIVE DATE FROM -TO	REASON
092324	02/19/25 – 03/04/25	Paid Administrative Leave

LEAVE OF ABSENCE: INSTRUCTIONAL

EMPLOYEE NUMBER	EFFECTIVE DATE FROM -TO	REASON
4131	04/07/25 – 06/30/25	Parental Leave of Absence (unpaid)

SUBSTITUTE

NAME	POSITION	RATE
Ashmore, Brianna	Nurse	$195.00/day
O'Shea, Anna*	Teacher (certified)	$150.00/day
Tieri, Janice	Nurse	$195.00/day

pending pre-employment processing

13.03 Donations

Recommended Action: The Superintendent recommends acceptance of a donation totaling $500.00 CASH, from The Reis Group, to support the Health and Wellness Meet, Greet, & Eat event at the Onteora High School. The Superintendent recommends approval to increase the 2024-2025 Budget per the following donations:
The Reis Group CM2989.400-25 Health & Wellness $500.00

13.04 Overnight Trip for Skiing Championships

Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby approves Waylon Brown and Rylan Reynolds to attend NYSPHSAA Skiing Championships to be held Monday, February 24, 2025 and Tuesday, February 25, 2025 with a training run on Sunday, February 23, 2025 at Gore Mountain, North Creek, NY. Due to tournament procedures, an overnight stay is required on Saturday, February 22, 2025 through Monday, February 24, 2025 with all related fees, room and board.

13.05 Overnight Trip for Wrestling Championships

Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby approves Cole Matteson to attend the NYSPHSAA Wrestling Championships to be held on Friday, February 28, 2025 and Saturday, February 29, 2025 at MVP Arena, Albany, NY. Due to tournament procedures, an overnight stay is required on Thursday, February 27, 2025 and Friday, February 28, 2025 with all related fees, room and board.

13.06 Warrants

Recommended Action: The Board of Education has reviewed and hereby accepts Warrant Schedule 6

13.07 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, #02/25, Confidential, as reviewed by Trustee Knutsen

14. Contracts and Independent Contractor Retainers

14.01 Approve all Contracts and Independent Contractor Retainers

Recommended Action: The Board of Education hereby approves item numbers 14.02 -14.07

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

14.02 Catskill Mountain Shakespeare

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 Contract between the Onteora Central School District and Catskill Mountain Shakespeare for the Pericles Performance effective April 30, 2025 at a maximum rate of $1,500.00 with no fringe benefits or deductions and authorizes the Superintendent to sign such an agreement.

14.03 ICR- Mohonk Preserve Inc.

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 Mohonk Preserve Inc. retained as Mohonk Preserve Educator effective March 31, 2025 through April 11, 2025 at a maximum rate of $245.00 with no fringe benefits or deductions and authorizes the Superintendent to sign such an agreement.

14.04 -ICR M. Driscoll Santicola

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 Martha Driscoll Santicola retained as Teacher of Visually Impaired effective January 10, 2025 through June 30, 2025 at a maximum rate of $200.00 with no fringe benefits or deductions and authorizes the Superintendent to sign such an agreement.

14.05 ICR- M. Holm

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 Matthew Holm/TS Hill Productions, Inc. retained as Guest Author effective March 3, 2025 at a maximum rate of $1,000.00 with no fringe benefits or deductions and authorizes the Superintendent to sign such an agreement.

14.06 G&R Inclusive Group

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 G&R Inclusive Group retained as a Trainer effective February 19, 2025 through June 30, 2025 at a maximum rate of $8,802.00 with no fringe benefits or deductions and authorizes the Superintendent to sign such an agreement.

14.07 Arlington CSD Health and Wellness

Recommended Action: BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Arlington Central School District establishes the rate of $1,058.79 per pupil for the school year 2024-2025 for Health and Welfare Services provided for Onteora resident pupils attending nonpublic schools in the Arlington Central School District.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board President and Clerk of the Board of Education be authorized to sign contracts for health services for the 2024-2025 school year.

15. Committee Reports

15.01 Audit Committee

- Nothing to report

15.02 Communications Committee

- Nothing to report

15.03 Facilities Committee

- Nothing to report

15.04 Legislative Action Committee

- Trustee Bishop reported that she and Reimondo attended Lobby Day in Albany last week, where they met with representatives and had productive discussions. They covered the following topics:

    - EV buses
    - Foundation Aid
    - Federal funding
    - Cell phone policy
    - Student safety

15.05 Policy Committee

- Nothing to report

Trustee Reimondo reported an update on the Health and Wellness Committee

- The Health and Wellness Committee met last week where we focused our time on discussing the Meet Greet and Eat event set for Monday, April 7th from 5:30-7:30 in the Middle School High school cafeteria. We hope by our next board meeting to have a complete list of participating restaurants and flyers to share with everyone but the current lineup is looking amazing! We are fortunate to have cash donations already secured from local businesses that are starting us off on the right foot as well as a wonderful mix of items for the silent auction. There will be live music performed by our students as well as arts and crafts activities provided by our PTA's. We are continuing the push to raise funds and excitement for this event that supports the Belleayre Bash for our Senior class as well as health and wellness initiatives in our schools. Please mark your calendars to join us on April 7th for a family friendly event focused on Plant based foods and our theme for 2025 is A Community of Flavors!

16. Old Business

16.01 The Board will discuss Old Business

- Trustee Knutsen provided a follow-up on the AI presentation and student expectations.
    - He found a document from a district in Pennsylvania that includes a disclosure form for major assignments, requiring students to describe how AI was used in their projects.
    - He read an example of the disclosure document to determine whether it should be incorporated into the district's AI policy.

- Trustee Hemingway Lynch shared details from her meeting about opening the gym to the community. She noted that a private group could submit a building use form and provide a certificate of insurance to gain access.

- The Board Trustees discussed Chapter 2 of *The Governance Core 2.0.*

17. New Business

17.01 The Board will discuss New Business

- Trustee Hemingway Lynch requested an update on the EV bus mandate.
- Trustee Goodrich shared that he plans to incorporate AI more in his work and encouraged the board to explore its use as well.

18. Request for Information

18.01 Board Members will Request Information of the Superintendent

- Nothing requested

19. Adjournment

19.01 Adjourn the Meeting. Next meeting is March 4, 2025, at Bennett.

Recommended Action: Motion to adjourn meeting at 10:21 pm.

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

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