Operations Committee Meeting
Monday, October 20, 2025

Olean High School - BOE Conference Room - 4:30 pm

Generated by Jackie Reed on Wednesday, October 22, 2025

1. CALL TO ORDER

A. Meeting called to order at 4:33 pm
Members Present: Alex Calbi, Chairperson; Kevin Stevens, Betty Burrows, Rene' Garrison
Others Present: Dr. Genelle Morris, Jen Mahar, Jennifer Kless; Jenny Bilotta, Jackie Reed

2. DISCUSSION

A. Head Start Contract for UPK
Jen Mahar reviewed the terms of the Cattaraugus County Head Start / UPK program, which is due for renewal and to be presented the Board of Education on 11/18/25.

- The UPK Grant has not changed in 10 years.
- UPK is provided either by the District or HeadStart.
- HeadStart can also provide Preschool to 3 year olds and they can provide additional family supports.
- The District program is only for 4-year-old students.

B. Cornell Cooperative Extension Contract for Farm to School Educator
Jen Mahar reviewed the Cornell Cooperative Extension Contract which provided the Farm to school Federal Grant.

- This is the second year of a 2 year grant.
- This provides our Farm to School teacher who provides taste texting, field trips, classroom connections, the Seed to Supper program and lessons and special events for students.
- There are no changes with the programming for the upcoming school year.

C. Policy #8460 Amendment
Dr. Morris is requesting an amendment to policy #8460.

- Going forward, International trips will not be considered to be school sponsored unless there is a formal contract in place, comprehensive overnight supervision and explicit Board authorization.
- There is currently a trip planned for 2027; however, we will be rescinding our authorization of that trip and it will be considered a community trip going forward. The students will be legally notified that the trip will proceed, but it will not be district-sponsored, and these letters will be sent by the attorney.
- Dr. Morris will work on these steps prior to the 11/18 BOE meeting, when the revised policy will go to the BOE for review.

D. Policy #1510 Review

- The Committee Chairperson continues to compare policy #3240 regarding Public Comments at BOE meetings with other districts.
- E1B Policy Services recommends incorporating policy #3240 into 1510, as they both address Public Comments.

E. Board Meetings to Auditorium

- The chairperson inquired about moving the BOE meetings to the auditorium and continuing Executive Session in the BOE Conference Room.
- The Superintendent recommended remaining in the BOE Conference Room becayse all streaming equipment is in the BOE Conference room.
- One of the Committee members noted that they preferred not to be livestreamed.
- Dr. Morris suggested that this go to a discussion at the BOARD for the next meeting.
- Staffing and cost will need to be assessed.

F. Live Stream of Meetings

- The chairperson discussed the possibility of live-streaming BOE meetings, giving examples of other district who broadcast their meetings on Youtube, noting that this is something community members have requested. .
- Although we have the capability to livestream, the availability of staff to work each board meeting and the cost would have to be assessed.
- This is a spearate issue from Extraordinary Circumstances for BOE members to participate via videoconference.

G. Suspension Report

- The chairperson inquired about receiving a more detailed report of suspensions and adding a priority level of the suspension reported.
- Less than 20 total suspensions (ISS + OSS) were reported for September of 2025, which the Superintendent reports is a good number for a Small City School District, and noted the following facts:
    - Can't give the level of detail requested and the data that we are providing is standard for any district
    - We need to maintain FERPA and student confidentiality
    - Leveled priorities would require a revision to the Code of Conduct
- Committee members are concerned that the Code of Conduct isn't being followed and parents are reporting that their students are not getting an education because 20% of a teacher's day is spent on behaviors.
- The superintendent explained that as a public school district, students who are suspended will always have the ability to return to school as expulsion is not an option in New York State.

H. Learnwell Contract

This was removed from the agenda pending further information.

3. ADJOURNMENT

A. Adjournment at 5:08 pm