OLEAN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education Regular Meeting
Tuesday, February 3, 2026 –6:30 p.m.
Livestream via YouTube
Olean High School Board Conference Room
410 W. Sullivan Street ✦ Olean, NY 14760
Generated by Jackie Reed on Friday, February 6, 2026

1. ATTENDANCE
A. Members present: Elizabeth Burrows, Alex Calbi, Lee W Filbert, Julio Fuentes, Rene' Garrison, Mary Hirsch-Schena, Aubree Malick, Kevin Stevens, Catharine Young
Others present: Dr. Genelle Morris, Superintendent; Jenny Bilotta, Business Administrator; Jackie Reed, District Clerk
Guests: Heather Keler, Mike Martel, Kim Ackerman,Teri Wright, Kenny Wright, Sylverster Cleary, Gabriel Myers, Karen Fox, Tawny Hein, Aubree Hund, Jaelyn Callahan, Scott Rucinski, Nolan Kelsey, E. Snyder, Jen Mahar, CamiRon Fischer, Tori Ellis, Xander Taylor, Braylon Torres, Zaiden France, Lori Anastasia

2. OPENING ITEMS
A. Call to Order at 6:32 p.m.
B. Pledge of Allegiance led by Aubree Malick
C. Silent Prayer or Moment of Personal Reflection
D. Approve the Agenda
Upon the recommendation of Dr. Genelle Morris, Superintendent of Schools, to approve the agenda as presented or amended.
Motion by Lee W Filbert, second by Rene' Garrison.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Aye: Elizabeth Burrows, Alex Calbi, Lee W Filbert, Julio Fuentes, Rene' Garrison, Mary Hirsch-Schena, Aubree Malick, Kevin Stevens, Catharine Young

3. COMMUNICATIONS, COMMENDATIONS AND WELCOME
A. Communications
Cattaraugus County Regional Foundation thanked Homeless Huskies Event for their donation of $1,000. Great work to Mr. Perry, SAC and all the students who participated in this event.
B. Commendations
- Sylvester Cleary of NYSSBA will present the NYSSBA Champions of Change Award to be presented to Scott Rucinski and the OHS NHS for Union Street Gardens Beautification Initiative. Congratulations Mr. Ruckiski and our NHS students! Great work!

- Congratulations to Senior Jacob Spears for receiving the Special Olympics Sportsmanship Award for his kindness, humility and heart for others. Jacob is the son of Sheila Spears.

- Congratulations to Ava Finch, Youth of the Week for the week of January 12th. Ava is a senior at Olean High School and is the daughter of David and Marlana Finch.

- The following students were named as 2025 Fall All-Western New York Scholar-Athletes:
  Joe Mest - Football
  Lily Eaton - Soccer/Girls Cross Country
  Kaylin Kratts - Girls Volleyball
  Ava Moses - Girls Volleyball
  Congratulations to all recipients!
- The District Engagement Committee would like to announce the recipients of the following awards:
  The Ron Shoup Award is presented to a teacher who emulates the characteristics of Mr. Shoup, who taught at Olean for over 40 years. He took a genuine interest in his students or families in need and went out of his way to help them. He loved and respected by his students. The District Engagement Committee proudly presents the Ron Shoup Award to Lori Anastasia for exemplifying these characteristics and supporting students and colleagues alike, making a significant positive impact in our District.
  The Leader of the Pack Awards are presented to faculty and staff who are known to always go above and beyond to make a difference. The District Engagement Committee proudly presents these awards to: Gretta Moran, Tina Turek, Kenny Wright, Patricia Fratercangelo, and Terry Burrows
  Thank you for your dedication to our students and your positive impact in our District! Congratulations to all recipients!

C. Introduction of New Employees- None

4. PUBLIC COMMENT
A. Public Comment-None

5. STUDENT MEMBER'S REPORT
A. Olivia Black - Student BOE Member

Olivia spoke on School Musical - Big Fish which was held on 1/31 and 2/1 in the OHS Auditorium.
She received many reports of how good it was and caused the audience to become very emotional.

Olivia will be attending Winter Carnival in Ellicottville, on Feb 10th.

B. Ava Moses - Student BOE Member
Ava will be attending the Winter Carnival in Ellicottville on February 10th and will be working with students that they don't normally get to hang out with.
Winter Weekend will be held on February 8th and this week is spirit week.
Dance is Sat 2/7 (nighs in Las Vegas)

Student BOE members reached out to the other buildings to help organize events to represent other students, and ae looking forward to hearing back from admin.

Class comps will be held on Friday, 2/6 (dodgeball)

6. BOARD REPORT
A. Cathy Young - BOE President
On January 14th, A. Malick, E. Burrows and A. Calbi attended the Congruency Committee meeting. This Committee was formed to discuss the options on how to use the additional 15 minutes of the school day to make that time as productive and meaningful to students as possible.

A discussion about the Budget Hearing that was held by the state for education and the Governor's budget proposal, which only increases Foundation Aide by 1%, with rising energy costs and bus mandates.

Cathy Young encouraged the community to contact your legislators or Albany to express your concerns about the gov budget proposal, either in-person, by email or written letter.

7. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT
A. ACSA Conference
Dr. Morris attended the Allegany Cattaraugus Superintendents Association Conference at Holiday Valley in Ellicottville on 1/30 and 1/31,where they also discussed the governor's proposed budget.
69% of the schools in New York would only receive a1% increase in foundation aide.
Utility and health insurance, and would absorb that aide immediately.
Legislators must respond and provide additional aide for schools.
Also discussed at ACSA was a roposal to make UPK truly universal allowing the formula per child to be increase, which as been a struggle for years.
Electric bus mandates are still in place.

B. Dr. Morris attended the musical "Big Fish", and congratulated the cast, crew, production, Music Department and Music Boosters on a successful production.

C. Strategic Plan Updates
Mike Martel presented the Technology Department Update for 2026
Tech's four big initiatives:

- LG Create Board - 85 Smart Boards which were over 10 years old were replaced over the summer. Teachers were trained and continue to be supported in the use of this new technology.

- Desktop to Laptop Conversion has/is taking place for all teachers. Not only do laptops take up less space, they are mobile, remotely project to new LG Boards and can used by teachers outside the classroom. It also allows teachers to be ready to go remote should the need arise in the future.

- GoGuardian: This program gives teachers the ability to lockdown student computers when in class, and aligns with eSchools. The program adjusts to the functions that teachers may allow and blocks sites or programs which are not allowed for that class. There is also a filtering system on the network, but the tech department is constantly adjusting.

- Digital Hall Passes - Tech is testing this program twith 8th and 9th graders in the spring. This allows hall monitors' iPads to digitally see which student have hall passes, where they came from, where they going? Allows weekly report with data for excessive uses by each students. The student creates it on their laptop. The Quote is being generated, but it's BOCES aidable.

Heather Keller, Principal presented East Views Strategic Plan Updates
Shared examples of East View's programs for Creating a positive culture, maximizing success for all, using data-driven decision making. She also shared examples of Community and Parent involvement, incentives for teachers and students using Positive Behaviral Incentives to develop and reinforce skills to be successful in school.

EV uses the Leader in Me program with Student of the Week and Student of the Month, with a goal that every student will be celebrated by the end of the year.

East View is has integrated a new model for ICT Classrooms and houses multi-grade Inclusive Elementary Classrooms.

C. 26-27 Budget Update

Jenny Bilotta presented the 2026-27 Budget Update
Governor's budget proposal, reminding us that it is preliminary and there are a lot of initiatives within the budget including the 1% increase in Foundation Aid and big increase in Pre-K funding for 3 year old students. The proposal includes full day funding for UPK (4 year olds) and we have provide that to students, but the funding is only for 1/2 day, the rest is subsidised by the general fund. The new proposed funding is just for 3 year old students and is only available through a grant.

If only 1%, the Foundation Aide increase would only cover salary increases and nothing else.
Health insurance could be as high as 10%; however they are expecting it will more likely be around 4%.
Wellness initiatives and management of RX drug costs is the main focus.
GLP medications are the biggest factor in drug costs and stipulations will be coming in the future.

A breakdown of personnel was provided:
Full Time Teachers - 220
Full Time Support Staff - 77
Part-Time Staff - 134
Administrators - 12
Management Confidential - 13

That equals a 1:9 teacher/student ratio in Olean, which is not sustainable with only 1% Foundation Aide.
The national average is 1:13 teacher/student ratio.
Enrollment has decreased 27% since 2009 (700 students less), and Olean's birth rate has decreased by 35%.
2009 staffing has decreased 5.75%.
State Aide is based on enrollment numbers.
Since 2013, SPED has gone up 9.29%, which explains staffing incrases.
Changes will be necessary to keep the district solvent/successful.
Data is being looked at and hard decisions will need to be made.
Ss people leave, and retire, we'll consider need before posting and filling positions.
The number of students do not warrant the number of FTE's.

The budget will also show a decrease in building aide, due to having paide off a debt services.
3 new diesel school buses will be purchased this year, with reserve funds, which leave only $560K. We will be putting out to the voters to increase this reserve, which will not be enough to purchase the electric busses if that comes to take place. Currently we have $560, and at this time are allowed to have up to $2 million in reserve.
The goal is to increase this to $10 million, which would take several years to build up, but would be beneficial for the district, especially if the electric bus initiative remains in effect.

8. DISCUSSION ITEMS
A. Policy Review
The Board Discussed the details of the changes recommended by Erie 1 BOCES.

9. COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS
A. Audit & Finance 1/15/26: Kevin Stevens reviewed the minutes of the 1/15/26 Audit Committee.
B. Health & Safety 1/21/26: Dr. Morris reviewed the minutes from the 1/21/26 Health & Safety Committee Meeting minutes.
C. Curriculum 1/29/26: Aubree Malick reviewed the minutes of the 1/29/26 Curriculum Committee Meeting.

10. CONSENT AGENDA
A. Meeting Minutes
B. CPSE Recommendations
C. CSE Recommendations
D. Substitute List
E. Surplus Items
F. Approval of Consent Agenda
Upon the recommendation Dr. Genelle Morris, Superintendent of Schools, to approve items A - E on the consent agenda.
Motion by Rene' Garrison, second by Mary Hirsch-Schena.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Aye: Elizabeth Burrows, Alex Calbi, Lee W Filbert, Julio Fuentes, Rene' Garrison, Mary Hirsch-Schena, Aubree Malick, Kevin Stevens, Catharine Young

11. NEW BUSINESS
A. BOCES Cooperative Purchasing Resolution
Upon the recommendation of Dr. Genelle Morris, Superintendent of Schools, to approve the Cooperative Purchasing Annual Resolution of the Board of Education.
Motion by Rene' Garrison, second by Lee W Filbert.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Aye: Elizabeth Burrows, Alex Calbi, Lee W Filbert, Julio Fuentes, Rene' Garrison, Mary Hirsch-Schena, Aubree Malick, Kevin Stevens, Catharine Young

B. Approve BOCES Unit Cost Methodology 2026-27
Upon the recommendation of Dr. Genelle Morris, Superintendent of Schools, to approve the BOCES Unit Cost Methodology for billabale services for the 2026-27 school year.

Motion by Mary Hirsch-Schena, second by Aubree Malick.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Aye: Elizabeth Burrows, Alex Calbi, Lee W Filbert, Julio Fuentes, Rene' Garrison, Mary Hirsch-Schena, Aubree Malick, Kevin Stevens, Catharine Young

C. Volunteer Applications
Upon the recommendation of Dr. Genelle Morris, Superintendent of Schools, to approve the volunteer application for Shawn Farr, Wrestling Volunteer.
Motion by Lee W Filbert, second by Mary Hirsch-Schena.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Aye: Elizabeth Burrows, Alex Calbi, Lee W Filbert, Julio Fuentes, Rene' Garrison, Mary Hirsch-Schena, Aubree Malick, Kevin Stevens, Catharine Young

D. OTA MOA Updating Section 8.11 (NYS Certification)
Upon the recommendation of Dr. Genelle Morris, Superintendnt of Schools, to approve the MOA updating Section 8.11 of the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Olean Teacher's Association and the Olean City School District, to adjust the Teacher's Salary Schedule for New York State certified teachers for the duration of the agreement.
Motion by Kevin Stevens, second by Julio Fuentes.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Aye: Elizabeth Burrows, Alex Calbi, Lee W Filbert, Julio Fuentes, Rene' Garrison, Mary Hirsch-Schena, Aubree Malick, Kevin Stevens, Catharine Young

E. Approve Policy Updates
Upon the recommendation of Dr. Genelle Morris, Superintendent of Schools, to waive the second reading and approve the Erie 1 BOCES updates to Policy #5681-School Safety Plans and Policy #7522-Concussion Management.
Motion by Lee W Filbert, second by Elizabeth Burrows.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Aye: Elizabeth Burrows, Alex Calbi, Lee W Filbert, Julio Fuentes, Rene' Garrison, Mary Hirsch-Schena, Aubree Malick, Kevin Stevens, Catharine Young

F. May BOE Meeting Date Change
Upon the recommendation of Dr. Genelle Morris, Superintendent of Schools, to amend the Board of Education Meeting schedule and approve moving the May 12, 2026, Regular BOE meeting to Tuesday, May 5, 2026, in the LGI room to align with with the Public Hearing for the 2026-27 Budget.
Motion by Kevin Stevens, second by Julio Fuentes.

G. Accept Internal Audit Reports
Upon the recommendation of Dr. Genelle Morris, Superintendent of Schools, to accept the final reports from Buffamante, Whipple & Buttafaro for the Student Activities Testing Internal Controls Audit and Risk Assessment for the 2024-25 school year.
Motion by Rene' Garrison, second by Aubree Malick.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Aye: Elizabeth Burrows, Alex Calbi, Lee W Filbert, Julio Fuentes, Rene' Garrison, Mary Hirsch-Schena, Aubree Malick, Kevin Stevens, Catharine Young

12. PERSONNEL
A. Andrea Niece Tenure Correction
Upon the recommendation of Dr. Genelle Morris, Superintendent of Schools, to further amend the motion adopted on August 13, 2024 and clarified by amendment on September 17, 2024 within "Personnel – Item A," regarding the appointment of Andrea Niece to the position of Special Education Teacher: to strike "Effective" date "7/1/2023" and insert "9/1/2024"; to strike "9/1/2023 – 8/30/26" and insert "9/1/2024 – 8/31/2028;" to strike "period of 3 years" and insert "period of 4 years; and to strike "Teacher is credited with 1 year of service in her capacity as a continuous long-term substitute for the District immediately prior to this probationary appointment." This motion is made due to Ms. Niece being erroneously credited with Jarema Credit prior to obtaining NYS teaching certification. Ms. Niece was issued SWD, Grades 1-6 Initial Teaching Certification on April 26, 2024 and SWD (All Grades) Initial Teaching Certification on June 5, 2024.
Motion by Mary Hirsch-Schena, second by Rene' Garrison.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Aye: Elizabeth Burrows, Alex Calbi, Lee W Filbert, Julio Fuentes, Rene' Garrison, Mary Hirsch-Schena, Aubree Malick, Kevin Stevens, Catharine Young

B. Personnel Consent Agenda
Upon the recommendation of Dr. Genelle Morris, Superintendent of Schools, to approve the Personnel Consent Agenda:
Motion by Mary Hirsch-Schena, second by Alex Calbi.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Aye: Elizabeth Burrows, Alex Calbi, Lee W Filbert, Julio Fuentes, Rene' Garrison, Mary Hirsch-Schena, Aubree Malick, Kevin Stevens, Catharine Young

13. INFORMATIONAL
Upcoming Meetings:

Operations	2/9/26	4:30	BOE Conference Rm.
Buildings & Grounds	2/10/26	4:00	BOE Conference Rm.
Audit & Finance	2/12/26	4:00	BOE Conference Rm.
BOE Regular Meeting	3/10/26	6:30	BOE Conference Rm.

14. EXECUTIVE SESSION
A. Exit meeting to go into Executive Session
Upon the recommendation of Dr. Genelle Morris, Superintendent of Schools, to exit the regular session at 9:02 p.m. to enter Executive Session for the purposes of Item # 6.
Motion by Aubree Malick, second by Julio Fuentes.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Aye: Elizabeth Burrows, Alex Calbi, Lee W Filbert, Julio Fuentes, Rene' Garrison, Mary Hirsch-Schena, Aubree Malick, Kevin Stevens, Catharine Young

B. Exit executive session to reconvene to board meeting
To adjourn from executive session at 10:16 p.m. and reconvene to Regular BOE meeting.
Rene' left at 9:31
Motion by Alex Calbi, second by Lee W Filbert.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Aye: Elizabeth Burrows, Alex Calbi, Lee W Filbert, Julio Fuentes, Mary Hirsch-Schena, Aubree Malick, Kevin Stevens, Catharine Young
Not Present at Vote: Rene' Garrison

15. REINSTATEMENT OF PERSONNEL
Upon the recommendation of Dr. Genelle Morris, Superintendent of Schools, to eliminate the administrative leave of an employee.
Julio Fuentes left at 10:20
Motion by Aubree Malick, second by Catharine Young.
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Aye: Elizabeth Burrows, Alex Calbi, Lee W Filbert, Mary Hirsch-Schena, Aubree Malick, Kevin Stevens, Catharine Young
Not Present at Vote: Julio Fuentes, Rene' Garrison

16. ADJOURNMENT
A. Adjourn from Regular Meeting at 10:21 pm.
Motion by Alex Calbi, second by Lee W Filbert.
Julio Left at 10:20
Final Resolution: Motion Carried
Aye: Elizabeth Burrows, Alex Calbi, Lee W Filbert, Mary Hirsch-Schena, Aubree Malick, Kevin Stevens, Catharine Young
Not Present at Vote: Julio Fuentes, Rene' Garrison

Respectfully submitted,



Jacqueline Reed
District Clerk