Board Meeting - Mar 05 2026 Minutes

Thursday, March 5, 2026 at 6:00 PM

Woodstock School

Page

1. Meeting Opening

1.01 Call to Order 6:00

1.02 Tobacco Policy Statement

We have a Tobacco policy in place, there is no smoking within 100 feet of any school building

1.03 Pledge of Allegiance

1.04 Roll Call:

Present: Rory Smith, Jenny Jared, Emily Mitchell-Marell, Clark Goodrich, Rick Knutsen, Cindy Bishop
Not Present: Caroline Jerome

2. Welcome

2.01 Woodstock Principal, Scott Richards will welcome the board (10 min) 12

Mr. Richards shared several updates and celebrations from Woodstock Elementary School. The school recently celebrated Read Across America Week, which brought engaging literacy activities and excitement for reading throughout the building.

Planning is underway to help support a smooth transition for students as the district prepares for consolidation. As part of these efforts, the 5th grade classes from Woodstock and Bennett will participate in a joint end-of-year field trip to Davis Park. In addition, staff are working to arrange a visit to the Middle School with the goal of having 5th grade students from both buildings attend on the same day, helping students build connections ahead of next year.

The PTA has also begun conversations with their counterparts at Bennett Elementary about potential collaboration and shared community events as consolidation approaches.

Another topic being discussed in relation to consolidation is before- and after-school care. Prior to the pandemic, Woodstock offered a program through

Healthy Kids that allowed students to arrive early or stay later in the day. A parent recently reached out to Mr. Richards about the possibility of bringing this program back, noting that several families have expressed interest. Initial discussions suggest starting the program at Woodstock Elementary, with the potential to expand it in the following year and eventually move the program to Bennett Elementary once consolidation occurs, as there appears to be a strong community need.

Mr. Richards also shared that a parent has proposed creating a Woodstock Elementary keepsake, which may include photographs, a visual timeline, and other memorabilia to preserve the school's history.

Finally, the school recently celebrated its 100th Day of School, and the PTA Talent Show is scheduled for Friday, March 13th.

BOE Welcome March 2026.pdf

3. Proposed Executive Session

3.01 Enter Executive Session

Motion to enter into executive session to discuss the tenure of specific employees, OAA negotiations and to consult with legal counsel (duration 90 min)

Moved by: Eric Knutsen; seconded by: Emily Mitchell-Marell

Carried

3.02 Exit Executive Session

Motion to exit executive session and return to public session

Moved by: Rory Smith; seconded by: Clark Goodrich

Carried

4. Acceptance of Minutes

4.01 Acceptance of Minutes 19

Board Meeting - Feb 12 2026 - Minutes - Html

The Board of Education hereby accepts the minutes of the February 12, 2026 meeting

Moved by: Jenny Jared; seconded by: Clark Goodrich

Carried

5. Superintendent District News

5.01 The Superintendent will report District News

Snow Days

We have used all of our scheduled snow days and an additional day that the NYSED has already determined will be exempted. We are hoping that we will be able to finish the year without any additional school closures.

School Calendar for the Coming Year

We plan to have the calendar to all of our unions by the end of this week, and potentially on the next agenda for approval. There is a change in the parent-teacher conference structure for next year, in that the elementary conferences will be scheduled separately from the secondary conferences. This hopefully will allow those families who have students are both levels to be able to attend each set of conferences.

Portrait of a Graduate/NY Inspires

Ms. Laffin reviewed the NYS Portrait of a Graduate and NY Inspires initiative with the PTA leadership during our meeting last week in order to build awareness. We have offered to attend individual PTA meetings if there is an interest in order to continue to share this information. It has become clear that this process will include a significant amount of local design in order to meet the vision of the portrait of a graduate. There will be some details provided, but we will have the opportunity to create much of this locally.

Athletics

Our Varsity Boys and Girls are both in Sectional Championship games at Mt. St. Mary's tonight. If you are watching this meeting and want to use two different devices, you can watch the games live-streamed. The links are in a Facebook post that was posted earlier today. The boys' game started at 5, and the girls ' game will start at 7. They both played well and won last night at home. Our students and community came out last night to support them, and they were exciting games to watch. I've asked to be kept informed, so I apologize now, but I will be checking my phone to see how they do tonight.

In addition, Liam Young is headed to States for swimming, having won the 200 meter Freestyle and 100 meter breaststroke in the Section 9 championships. And Sadie Konjas will represent Onteora at the indoor track state championships in Shot Put. Sadie, Sam Navarro, and Quinn Denter all competed at the indoor track sectionals. Congratulations to all of these outstanding and hard-working athletes.

5.02 Central Campus Design Update

Capital Project Work

The architects and their design team will be meeting with elementary faculty to discuss the design of the rooms being created. There are meetings scheduled for March 11th and March 18th. The basic layout of the building has been drafted, and input has been solicited from the Elementary Principals, but now the individuals who work inside the buildings will be brought into the process. We will be having our playgrounds inspected soon and will discuss with the vendor whether any of the existing structures could be relocated and incorporated into the relocated playground. Once we determine that, then we can explore the process for designing the playground and work with students. Our previous playground builds were very much driven by student input, and this process will be similar.

5.03 Assistant Superintendent for Business, Monica LaClair will provide a Budget and Elevator Project Update

Ms. LaClair reported that the district has submitted the tax levy limit to the New York State Comptroller in the amount of $50,626,535, as presented at the previous Board meeting. The district is currently awaiting the final adoption of the New York State legislative budget, which is due by March 31, 2026, to determine whether the district will receive any additional foundation aid.

Ms. LaClair also reported that the district's health insurance consortium is now projecting an increase of approximately 12%, which is lower than the originally anticipated 16% increase.

After reviewing the current year's budget, Ms. LaClair confirmed that the district will be able to pay off the remaining BOCES debt using 2025–2026 funds, which will help reduce expenditures in the 2026–2027 budget.

She further noted that the final remaining variable in the budget process is staffing, and the district is continuing to evaluate whether all positions resulting from upcoming retirements will need to be replaced.

Ms. LaClair also provided an update on the Elevator+ Project. On January 28, 2026, the district opened bids for the project, which includes three components: replacement of the main elevator, restoration of the middle school gym floor that was removed from last summer's project due to unforeseen structural conditions, and ceiling repairs in the 28 Hallway where deteriorating asbestos tiles present a potential health concern. The project's original construction budget was estimated at $964,000.

However, the bids received exceeded the projected budget, with an estimated construction cost of over $2 million. Contractors viewed the project as relatively small, resulting in limited bidder participation. The district received one bid for the General Construction portion and no bids for the abatement and demolition portion of the work. Ms. LaClair explained that rebidding the project is unlikely to produce more favorable pricing.

Over the past several weeks, district administrators have worked closely with the Construction Manager to explore available options, including potentially completing one portion of the project while deferring others. However, after discussions with the Superintendent, Construction Manager, and Facilities Director, it was determined that all three components represent necessary repairs for the safety and well-being of students, staff, and the community.

As a result, the administration is recommending an increase to the Transfer to Capital line of $1 million, bringing the total to $1.75 million in the 2026–2027 budget to cover the additional costs associated with the project.

Ms. LaClair noted that this adjustment would not increase the tax levy. The funding would be a one-time allocation, supported by 2025–2026 budget savings and proceeds from the sale of the West Hurley School. The amount would be established as a not-to-exceed figure, with any unexpended funds returned to

fund balance.

6. Board District News

6.01 The Board will report District News

Trustee Jared reported on several recent highlights from the district's music department. She shared that the Ashokan Center invited the district's Jazz Band to return for hot chocolate again this year. She also noted that a middle school student has been selected as one of five percussionists in New York State to participate in the All-State Middle School Honors Band.

Trustee Mitchell-Marell reported on the upcoming Woodstock Elementary School PTA Talent Show, which will take place next Friday. She shared that students have been practicing several times a week in preparation, and that kindergarten and first grade students will be performing together.

Trustee Knutsen provided an update from the Booster Club, noting that the Trivia Contest will take place during the first week of June, after the spring sports season has concluded. He shared that the event was a great success last year and encouraged community members to participate again this year.

7. Acknowledge Public Be Heard Comments

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

no one spoke

8. Public and Student Comment

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

- Amy Suozzo

9. **Break**

9.01 The Board will take a 5 minute break if needed

10. Discussion and Possible Action

10.01 Discuss Polling Location and Voting Hours for all Future District Votes

Superintendent McLaren shared that, for multiple reasons, the district would like to move forward with establishing a single central campus voting location for all future district votes. She invited Board members to provide comments and input on the proposal.

Trustee Goodrich noted that, in the past, having multiple voting locations provided convenience for voters. However, he indicated that with the implementation of early mail voting, the voting process has become more accessible. He also referenced other nearby school districts that have successfully transitioned to a single voting location.

Trustee Knutsen confirmed that the extended voting hours of 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. for in-person voting would remain in place. He also noted that holding voting at a single location on campus would allow students to remain in school for the full day, rather than dismissing early due to building use for voting.

The District Clerk also reminded the Board that early mail voting will take place on May 16, with voting available at the Woodstock Library from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and at the Phoenicia Library from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Following discussion, the Board of Education members expressed support for moving to a single central voting location. A formal vote on the matter will take place at the next Board meeting.

11. Consent Agenda

11.01 Approve Consent Agenda

The Board hereby approves item numbers 11.02 - 11.08

Moved by: Jenny Jared; seconded by: Clark Goodrich

Carried

11.02 Personnel Agenda

The Board of Education hereby approves the personnel agenda as attached

Carried

3-3-26 personnel agenda.pdf

11.03 Overnight Trip - FFA

The Board of Education hereby approves 5 students to attend the FFA (Future Farmers of America) Convention in Buffalo, NY from May 13, 2026 to May 16, 2026 with all related fees, room and board.

Carried

NYS FFA ConventionOHS FFA Overnight 5.13-5.16.26_Redacted.pdf

11.04 Overnight Trip - NYSBDA Symposium

The Board of Education hereby approves 1 student to attend the NYSBDA Symposium in East Syracuse from March 6, 2026 to May 16, 2026 with all related fees, room and board.

Carried

NYSBDA Symposium_Redacted.pdf

11.05 Budget Transfer

The Superintendent recommends the transfer of funds from Transfer to Capital to Buildings and Grounds Professional Services budget code for the High School Track Resurfacing.

Transfer Amount $176,833.00 ***Interfund Transfer*** *A9950.900-10* ***Description*** Professional Services***To Budget Code*** *A1621.449-17*

Carried

11.06 Warrants

The Board of Education has reviewed and hereby accepts Warrant Schedule 8

Carried

11.07 Surplus Items

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 lists of items as surplus and

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

Carried

2-11-25 Surplus Items Request.pdf 2-11-25 Surplus Items Request - 2.pdf Yearbook Surplus Memo.pdf

11.08 Schedule U- The Committee on Special Education (CSE) and Committee on Pre-School Special Education (CPSE) Recommendations

The Board hereby approves the Instruction - Schedule U - The Committee on Special Education 9CSE) and Committee on Pre-School Special Education (CPSE) Recommendations, Schedule U, #03/26, Confidential, as reviewed by Trustee Goodrich

Carried

12. Contracts and Independent Contractor Retainers

12.01 Approve all Contracts and Independent Contractor Retainers

The Board hereby approves item numbers 12.02 - 12.10

Moved by: Emily Mitchell-Marell; seconded by: Rory Smith

Carried

12.02 Approve Reimbursement Agreement

The Onteora Board of Education hereby approves the reimbursement agreement as presented

Carried

12.03 ICR- Mentoring in Sports Broadcasting/Analyzing with Pearllan Mary P. Cipriano

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 Pearllan Mary P. Cipriano retained as an Sports Broadcasting/Analyzing Mentor effective January 1, 2026 through June 30, 2026 at a maximum rate of $250.00 with no fringe benefits or deductions and authorizes the Superintendent to sign such an agreement.

Carried

Pearllan Mary P. Cipriano- Mentor ICR.pdf

12.04 ICR- Mentoring in Veterinary Medicine

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 Argos Animal Hospital retained as an Veterinary Medicine Mentor effective January 1, 2026 through June 30, 2026 at a maximum rate of $250.00 with no fringe benefits or deductions and authorizes the Superintendent to sign such an agreement.

Carried

Argos Animal Hospital- Mentor ICR.pdf

12.05 ICR- T. Bonini, Psychiatric Evaluations

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 Tiffany Bonini, MSN, APRN, PMHNP-BC retained as an Psychiatric Evaluator effective March 4, 2026 through June 30, 2026 at a rate of $900.00 per evaluation and $200.00 per hour for CSE meeting participation to a maximum rate of $3,300.00 with no fringe benefits or deductions and authorizes the Superintendent to sign such an agreement.

Carried

T. Bonini- ICR.pdf

12.06 ICR- R. Hahn, Psychiatric Evaluations

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 Richard Hahn, MD retained as an Psychiatric Evaluator effective March 4, 2026 through June 30, 2026 at a rate of $1,500.00 per evaluation as well as $2,000.00 for evaluations and attendance at meetings to a maximum rate of $6,000.00 with no fringe benefits or deductions and authorizes the Superintendent to sign such an agreement.

Carried

R. Hahn ICR.pdf

12.07 Catskill Mountain Shakespeare

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 Performance of Hamlet on April 30, 2026 at a maximum rate of $1,500.00 with no fringe benefits or deductions and authorizes the Superintendent to sign such an agreement.

Carried

Hamlet.contract - Onteora.pdf

12.08 New Paltz CSD Health and Welfare Services

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Arlington Central School District hereby establishes the rate of $1,613.50 per pupil for the 2025–2026 school year for Health and Welfare Services provided to Onteora Central School District resident pupils attending nonpublic schools located within the New Paltz Central School District; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board President and the Clerk of the Board of Education are hereby authorized to execute any and all contracts necessary for the provision of health services for the 2025–2026 school year.

Carried

12.09 NYSSBA Facilitated Board Retreat

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 New York State School Board Association (NYSSBA) retained as Board Retreat Facilitator effective March 20, 2026 at a maximum rate of $3,000.00 with no fringe benefits or deductions and authorizes the Superintendent to sign such an agreement.

Carried

NYSSBA Board Retreat Letter of Confirmation.pdf

12.10 Combination of Athletic Teams for Modified Girls Lacrosse

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED on recommendation by the Superintendent of Schools that the Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District approve the Combining of Athletic Teams between the Onteora Central School District and the Rondout Valley Central School District for Modified Girls Lacrosse. Rondout Valley is the host school with Onteora being the Combining School effective March 6, 2026; and authorizes the Superintendent, Board of Education President, and Athletics Director to sign such an agreement.

Carried

13. Policies

13.01 Second Reading and Adoption of of Policy 3435 Culture, Climate and Belonging 56

Culture Climate and Belonging policy 3435 update to policy.pdf

The Onteora Board of Education hereby adopts policy 3435 as written

Moved by: Jenny Jared; seconded by: Emily Mitchell-Marell

Carried

13.02 Second Reading and Adoption of Policy 5659 Free Meal Services 59

Free Meals Service policy 5659.pdf

The Onteora Board of Education hereby adopts policy 5659 as written

Moved by: Rory Smith; seconded by: Emily Mitchell-Marell

Carried

13.03 Second Reading and Adoption of Policy 5660 "Charging" Meals and Other Food Items 61

5660 charging meals and other food items.pdf

The Onteora Board of Education hereby adopts policy 5660 as written

Moved by: Jenny Jared; seconded by: Clark Goodrich

Carried

13.04 Second Reading and Adoption of Policy 5681 School Safety Plans and Teams 65

School Safety Plans and Teams - with updates.pdf

The Onteora Board of Education hereby adopts policy 5681 as written

Moved by: Clark Goodrich; seconded by: Eric Knutsen

Carried

13.05 Second Reading and Adoption of Policy 5720 Scheduling and Routing 70

5720 Scheduling and Routing with 2026 changes.pdf

The Onteora Board of Education hereby adopts policy 5720 as written

Moved by: Jenny Jared; seconded by: Rory Smith

Carried

13.06 Second Reading and Adoption of Policy 5730 Transportation of Students 71

5730 Transportation of Students with 2026 updates.pdf

The Onteora Board of Education hereby adopts policy 5730 as written

Moved by: Emily Mitchell-Marell; seconded by: Jenny Jared

Carried

14. Committee Reports

14.01 Updates from Board Committees

Trustee Mitchell-Marell reported on behalf of the Health and Wellness Committee, noting that the Meet, Greet and Eat event will be held on April 20 at the Middle/High School.

Trustee Jared reported that the Academic Committee meeting has been rescheduled to the end of the month.

It was also reported that the Audit Committee has a meeting scheduled for Monday at 9:00 a.m.

The Facilities Committee will hold its next meeting on March 19.

15. Unfinished Business

15.01 The Board will discuss Unfinished Business

Trustee Knutsen revisited the Board's previous discussion regarding a potential book study. He asked board members to review the report he previously shared related to artificial intelligence (AI) and consider whether it may be a good topic for the first discussion.

Trustee Knutsen suggested that board members read the summary of the report and, at the next meeting, discuss whether they would like to move forward and identify specific sections to review and discuss. He also noted that he will resend the report to board members.

16. New Business

Trustee Jared spoke about the proposed before and after school program, noting the importance of considering families on the western side of the district when planning the program. She emphasized that providing this service would be an important support for families in the community.

Trustee Goodrich raised a question regarding the surplus of yearbooks that was approved at the meeting. He expressed hope that the remaining copies would not be destroyed. It was suggested that the district make a Facebook post to determine whether community members may be interested in the additional yearbooks.

16.01 The Board will discuss New Business

17. Request for Information

17.01 Board Members will Request Information of the Superintendent

Trustee Jared requested information regarding Chromebook usage, including time on

task and websites visited.

Superintendent McLaren asked for clarification regarding the time frame for the request, noting that without a defined period the report would be very large.

Trustee Jared indicated that she would withdraw the request for information for the time being in order to refine and specify the request so that it does not create unnecessary additional work.

18. Adjournment

18.01 Adjourn the Meeting. Next meeting is March 17, 2026 at 6:00 pm at Bennett.

The meeting is adjourned at 8:18 pm .

Moved by: Jenny Jared; seconded by: Clark Goodrich

Carried

District Clerk





Woodstock Elementary School





March BOE Meeting

5th Grade Art Show at WAAM

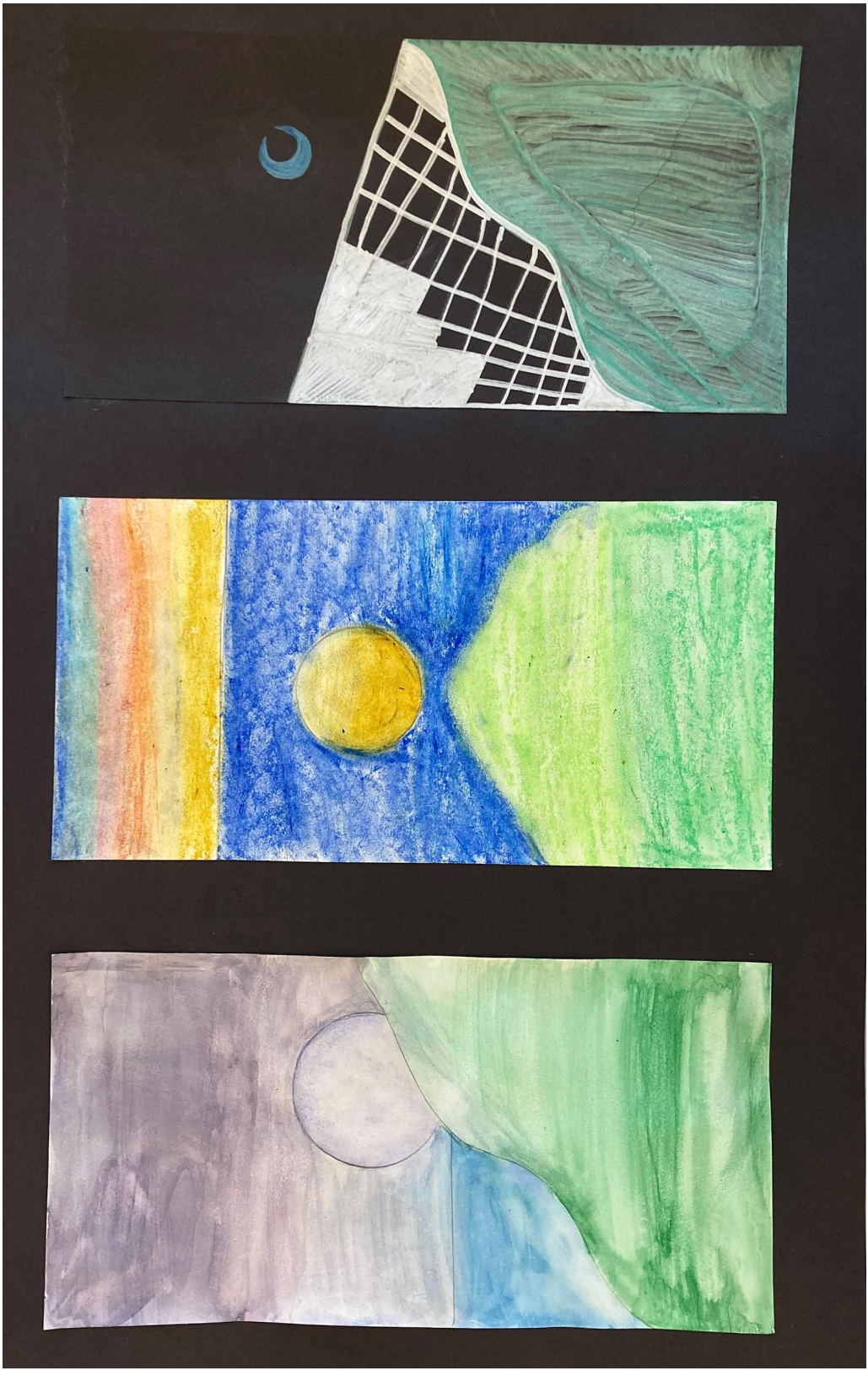
Opening: March 14th from 4-6pm in the YES Gallery

The show runs from March 13th-April 26th











Woodstock PTA Update

Talent Show

March 13th

Starts at 6:00pm



Board Meeting - Feb 12 2026 Minutes

Thursday, February 12, 2026 at 6:00 PM
MS/HS Auditorium

1. Meeting Opening

1.01 Call to Order 6:00

1.02 Tobacco Policy Statement
We have a Tobacco policy in place, there is no smoking within 100 feet of any school building

1.03 Pledge of Allegiance

1.04 Roll Call: Present: Rory Smith, Jenny Jared, Emily Mitchell-Marell, Caroline Jerome, Clark Goodrich, Rick Knutsen, Cindy Bishop

2. Welcome

2.01 TBD
02-10-2026 - Board Welcome - HS Principal.pdf

3. Public Hearing

3.01 The Board President will open the Hearing on the Smartbond Investment Plan (20 min)

3.02 Director of Technology, John Reimer, will present the Smartbond Investment Plan Phase 2
SmartBond Investment Plan Phase 2 Presentation.pdf

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3.03 The Board President will close the Hearing

4. Food Service Presentation

4.01 TBD

Onteora Food Service NY Foods 2026.pdf

5. Student Representative Report

5.01 The Student Representative on the Board, Jenny Albright, will give a report

Following the Food Service Presentation, Student Representative Jenny Albright began her report by commenting on the presentation, noting that feedback from students has been positive and that the food at Onteora is considered to be very good.

Jenny reported that the Science Olympiad team competed last weekend.

She shared that Community Night is scheduled for the upcoming week.

In athletics, Jenny stated that the boys basketball team has been performing exceptionally well and recently secured a win against a very tough competitor. She added that winter track is also having a strong season, and the ski team continues to have a successful season.

Jenny highlighted that the Spanish Club recently took a trip to New York City. She also noted that the Art Club has an upcoming trip planned to the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) in New York City.

She reported that at the beginning of the winter season, the National Honor Society organized a canned food drive to collect donations for local food banks.

Lastly, Jenny shared that the 6th grade has been participating in afterschool club sports.

6. Proposed Executive Session

6.01 Enter Executive Session

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Motion to enter into executive session to consult with legal counsel (duration 45 min)

Moved by: Rory Smith
Seconded by: Jenny Jared

Carried

6.02 Exit Executive Session
Motion to exit executive session and return to public session

Moved by: Jenny Jared
Seconded by: Rory Smith

Carried

7. Budget Presentation

7.01 Assistant Superintendent for Business, Monica LaClair will present the Rollover Budget (20 min)
2-10-26 Budget Rollover.pdf

8. Acceptance of Minutes

8.01 Acceptance of Minutes
Board Meeting - Jan 13 2026 - Minutes - Html
Special Meeting in Central Administration - Jan 23 2026 - Minutes - Html

The Board of Education hereby accepts the minutes of the January 13, 2026 and January 23, 2026 meetings

Moved by: Clark Goodrich
Seconded by: Jenny Jared

Carried

9. Superintendent District News

9.01 The Superintendent will report District News
Snow Days

Draft

We have used four snow days, and have two remaining. Please review the back of the one-page calendar that is on our website for the process we have established if we need more emergency closing days than we have in the calendar.

School Calendar

We have been working on a draft school calendar for next year. Currently, in our draft calendar, students return on September 8th, which is the day following Labor Day. We plan to hold two Superintendent Conference Days the Thursday and Friday prior to Labor Day. The calendar currently has six snow days again next year, but that could potentially increase by one day. If not, we will follow the same process as we have this year related to snow days. If we have to utilize more emergency days than are in the calendar, we will use days from spring break to make up the lost instructional time. We should be able to bring the calendar to the Board in March for review and approval.

Ulster BOCES Tour

Assistant Superintendent Laffin and I were fortunate to join the annual Board tour of all of the BOCES programs that are available to our students, including the new facility at iPark. The day was very full as we visited five separate locations. This is an important opportunity for our Board members to see the programs and speak with the administrators and students in each program in order to really understand what is available. We don't always have students in every program, but it is valuable to be familiar with the offerings.

Middle School Book Fair

Our Middle School has partnered with the Booster Club and the Golden Notebook to hold a book fair. The book fair was set up for much of today and will be available again tomorrow. The 6th grade was treated to a book reading by voice actor Mr. Ollie Wyman. We were able to watch part of the reading and it was great. The kids were really engaged.

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EV Bus Initiative

During the Ulster County School Boards Meeting with Legislators, Michele Hinchey spoke about her efforts to change the EV Bus mandate. She noted that she is pushing to ensure that the challenges of this program are recognized and that additional waivers may be put in place. On this topic, during a meeting of the legislative committee of my professional organization, a colleague whose district has three EV buses noted that they simply were unusable during the very cold days last week.

During this same meeting, Michele Hinchey noted that although the Governor has put a one percent increase in Foundation Aid in her proposed budget, Senator Hinchey will be fighting to increase that number to three percent. The one percent increase is only $79,741 for us, so even if that were to be tripled, it would still not be a significant aid increase for Onteora. I don't expect that we will see a three percent increase in the final state budget, but they may be able to raise it to two percent.

West Hurley Elementary

I am pleased to report that the West Hurley property sale has been closed. As of Friday of last week, the District is no longer the owner of this property and I look forward to seeing it be transformed into housing for our District.

10. Board District News

10.01 The Board will report District News

Trustee Mitchell-Marell reported that Woodstock School recently hosted a Bingo Night, with every table filled and strong participation. She noted the event was very enjoyable. She also shared that a Valentine's Day party is scheduled for tomorrow and that the Woodstock Talent Show will take place in March.

Trustee Jared expressed how impressed she was with the Middle School Community Day, highlighting the yoga and

Draft

meditation class that she taught, specifically noted how exceptional the Onteora students were who participated.

Trustee Knutsen also commented on the Middle School Community Day, stating that many community members were involved and that students were able to choose from a variety of activities during the school day. He shared that he and his spouse led an improv workshop.

Trustee Jerome shared that her daughter was very happy with the event, along with the rest of the student body. Trustee Bishop added that her granddaughter was also very excited about the day.

Trustee Bishop then reported on Legislative Action, sharing that she attended Lobby Day with trustees Knutsen and Jared in Albany where they met with representatives. She described it as an interesting and productive day, noting that the representatives were highly engaged. At times, board members were paired with neighboring districts. She stated that the issues raised by Onteora were echoed by board trustee colleagues from across the region.

Trustee Knutsen added that every school district in the state has concerns regarding the electric vehicle (EV) bus mandate. He expressed that for Onteora, the mandate presents significant challenges and is not currently feasible due to a host of practical concerns and prohibitive costs. He emphasized the need for greater clarity from the state to help districts plan for the future, as the current version of the mandate does not align with operational realities. He also noted that Foundation Aid and artificial intelligence were discussed during Lobby Day.

Trustee Jared shared that one of her highlights from Lobby Day was the unity among school board trustees, representatives, and staff, stating that all were aligned and unified in advocating for what is best for schools and students.

Trustee Goodrich reported that while at iPark, he spoke with Senator Michelle Hinchey regarding EV buses. He stated that he believes there is understanding that any solution must be affordable. He recommended that hybrid options be considered. He also noted that several board members toured

Ulster BOCES, commending the program and sharing that it was especially impactful to hear directly from students, as teachers allowed them to lead the discussion.

Trustee Jared reported that the district's music department had an outstanding showing at the All-County Jazz Festival held two weekends ago.

Trustee Bishop added that she attended the All-County Choral event the week prior to the Jazz Festival. She described the experience as remarkable, noting that students from across Ulster County rehearse the same piece and meet for the first time on the Friday evening before the concert, then perform together the following day. She shared that Onteora's Chorus Teacher, Brittany Carroll was there.

11. Acknowledge Public Be Heard Comments

11.01 The Board will acknowledge the public be heard comments from the last meeting
no one spoke

12. Public and Student Comment

12.01 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.

Further, all individuals at Board meetings are expected to abide by the rules for Public Conduct on School Property as

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set forth in the district's Code of Conduct. At board meetings, speakers and observers may not engage in behavior that disrupts the meeting, such as shouting, interrupting others, blocking the free movement of others, or obstructing the views of others. In the event of such disruption, the Board President will remind those in attendance of the rules under this policy. Any Board member may request a brief recess of the meeting, which would serve as a cooling down period. The Board President may order the removal of those who are a threat to the safety of others or who disrupt the orderly conduct of the meeting.

We understand community members are passionate about certain issues. We all want our school board meetings to serve as an example to our students that members of our school board and members of our community can deal with controversial issues in a civil manner and show mutual respect for one another. In that spirit, we ask that all speakers and members of the audience maintain civility and respect for the differing views of others.

13. **Break**

13.01 The Board will take a 5 minute break if needed

14. Discussion and Possible Action

The Board of Education reached consensus on the goals as presented. No further discussion was held.

14.01 District Goals 2025-2027

Healthy and Safety - Use of Artificial Intelligence and Technology

As the administration continues its work with BOCES in a pilot program to develop sound and thoughtful policies on the safe and effective use of Artificial Intelligence in the district, the board will seek to increase engagement and knowledge in the parent and guardian community on the issues surrounding AI and tech through outreach programs. The district should

Draft

move toward a clear, easy-to-understand set of districtwide expectations regarding the safe and ethical use of AI on schoolwork.

Culture and Climate

The Board is committed to creating and nurturing an environment in which every student is supported, engaged, and progressing on their individual path. The Board will prioritize whole-student well-being by supporting programs that meet our students where they are, and offer them the academic, extracurricular, and life-skill-building opportunities that will put them in the best position to succeed and become lifelong learners. The board will additionally support the administration's efforts to foster a culturally responsive-sustaining education framework, which is the centerpiece of New York State's transition to the "Portrait of a Graduate" blueprint for future graduates.

In-Person Learning

In an increasingly online and isolated society, being present for educational instruction, including arriving on time at the start of each school day and having daily human interaction and play is crucial. It both fosters a productive, vibrant and equitable learning environment for our students and improves their mental health, social skills, and academic development

Regular attendance is a core value of our district, which allows our students to be present for themselves and each other. The board will support and monitor the administration's ongoing efforts to reduce absenteeism and increase in-person engagement for our students.

Academic

The Board supports providing robust professional development opportunities to inspire our educators and students and to ensure our teaching is following best practices in a rapidly evolving world. This includes continued

support for the implementation of Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS). Additionally, The Board commits to monitoring and improving student success by ensuring shifts in curriculum, course offerings, instruction, and professional development needed to align with Portrait of a Graduate by Fall 2027, including identifying enhanced academic growth opportunities for all students.

Fiscal Planning and Oversight

The Board will support the creation of an annual budget that prioritizes student needs and a long-term fiscal plan that prioritizes the continued financial health and sustainability of the district.

The Board will continue to advance the next steps in the creation of a unified K-12 central campus that is strategically planned, future-focused, financially and environmentally sustainable, and an optimal learning environment for all the students in our district. The board will strive on an ongoing basis to provide clear, understandable information to the public. The Administration will make the long-term plan available to the public and provide progress updates as they become available

Communication

The Board recognizes the paramount importance of developing respectful and collaborative relationships with our community partners. To that end, we will continue to partner with our BOCES consultant and district administration to implement improvements in our communications strategies. The Board and administration will communicate its priorities, report its progress on initiatives, and address community concerns in detail through presentations at our public board meetings, monthly Board Briefs, quarterly District newsletters and public events.

14.02 Discuss potential parent workshops in the near future (20 mins)

Trustee Knutsen emphasized the importance of scheduling

Draft

opportunities that would encourage community involvement and create awareness around emerging issues such as technology and artificial intelligence. He noted that discussions would not necessarily need to center around a full book study, but could instead focus on articles from magazines or newspapers. He suggested that the Board could help create a space for the community to come together and engage in meaningful dialogue.

Trustee Jared stated that the Board is in new territory and has more space to think broadly about topics such as mission, vision, and future planning. She proposed the possibility of the Board reading a book aligned with one of its goals and inviting the community to participate in the discussion.

Trustee Jerome expressed concern about potential attendance, acknowledging how busy families and community members are.

Trustee Bishop reflected positively on the Board's previous study of *Governance Core 2.0*, describing it as empowering. The idea was raised of selecting another book and inviting the community to read along and share their perspectives during designated Board meetings, with careful consideration given to choosing a topic that would foster strong engagement.

Trustee Mitchell-Marell suggested keeping "ears to the ground" to gauge parent interest and proposed creating a shared document to review popular non-fiction titles.

Superintendent McLaren suggested that a workshop could be scheduled an hour prior to a regular board meeting.

Trustee Jared also proposed the possibility of holding a lighter workshop or discussion session between board meetings.

Draft

Trustee Bishop asked whether there was general agreement on the concept of exploring potential titles and determining how such an initiative would work.

Consensus of the Board was affirmative.

Trustee Goodrich suggested reaching out to the district librarians for recommendations on popular books.

15. Consent Agenda

15.01 Approve Consent Agenda

The Board hereby approves item numbers 15.02 - 15.13

Moved by: Caroline Jerome

Seconded by: Rory Smith

Carried

15.02 Personnel Agenda

The Board of Education hereby approves the personnel agenda as attached

Carried

2-10-26 personnel agenda.pdf

15.03 Approve Volunteers

The Board of Education hereby approves the following volunteers listed below:

Megan Cash

Ian Fischer

Carried

15.04 Cell Phone Assignments - updated list (in bold)

The Board of Education hereby approved the following cell phone assignments as below:

Carried

Draft

Cell Phone Assignments 2025/2026	
Name	**Notes**
Gabriel Buono	
Raymond Clinton	
Lance Edelman	
Elizabeth Fallo	
Carol Grima	
Corey Halwick	SRO
Kyle Harjes	
Stephanie Laffin	
Ariel McGrath	
Victoria McLaren	
Rosalie Mernin	
Jonnah O'Donnell	
Scott Richards	
Sarah Turck	
Thomas Sharon	SRO
Don Solimene	
Alexandria Weir	
MIFI Access Point – Lance Edelman	

15.05 Memorandum of Agreement between OCSD and ONTEA

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District approves the attached Memorandum of Agreement with the Onteora Central School District and the Onteora Non Teachers' Association as attached

Draft

Carried

MOA between OCSD and ONTEA.pdf

15.06 Change Orders for Current Projects

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED on recommendation by the Superintendent of Schools that the Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District approves the attached Change Orders (in red) for the current projects

Carried

change order spreadsheet 2.10.26 approval.pdf

15.07 Donation of Bench Soccer Table

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Onteora Central School District Board of Education accepts the donation of a Bench Soccer Table valued at $599.00 from Mr. Don Solimene for use in the cafeteria.

Carried

15.08 Additional Donations

The Superintendent recommends approval for the attached donations, each contributing to various initiatives within our district, and increasing their respective budgetary appropriations. The total amount for approval is $13,191.08.

Carried

Donation Spreadsheet.pdf

15.09 Financial Report

The Board has reviewed and hereby accepts the Financial reports from December 2025

Carried

15.10 Stale Dated Checks

As of February 11, 2026, the presented stale dated check will

Draft

be written off.

Carried

15.11 Warrants

The Board of Education has reviewed and hereby accepts Warrant Schedule 7

Carried

15.12 Surplus Items

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 lists as surplus and authorizes the same and/or disposal of these items.

Carried

Bennett Surplus .pdf Spring BOE Memo 2026.pdf

15.13 Schedule U- The Committee on Special Education (CSE) and Committee on Pre-School Special Education (CPSE) Recommendations

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, #02/26, Confidential, as reviewed by Trustee Jenny Jared

Carried

16. Contracts and Independent Contractor Retainers

16.01 Approve all Contracts and Independent Contractor Retainers

The Board hereby approves item numbers 16.02 - 16.07

Moved by: Jenny Jared

Seconded by: Caroline Jerome

Draft

Carried

16.02 Agreement between CPL and Onteora CSD

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District hereby approves and authorizes the execution of an agreement with CPL Architects, Engineers and Landscape Architects, D.P.C., d/b/a CPL, to provide architectural and related professional services for the Capital Improvement Project, as attached; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent of Schools is authorized to execute all documents necessary to effectuate this agreement.

Carried

CPL Contract - final.pdf

16.03 ICR- Yoga and Meditation with HariPrakaash - Woodstock Elem.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED , upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Onteora Central School District approves the Independent Contractor Retainer Agreement between the Onteora Central School District and Jamie Reilly/DBA HariPrakaash, retained as Yoga and Meditation Instructor, for services to be provided March 23, 2026 through March 27, 2026 at a rate of $400 per day, not to exceed a total of $2,000, and authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to execute such agreement.

Carried

Yoga and Meditation- WD.pdf

16.04 ICR- Mentoring in Architecture with M. Wentland

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 Wentland retained as an Architecture Mentor effective February 11, 2026 through June 26, 2026 at a maximum rate of $250.00 with no fringe benefits or

Draft

deductions and authorizes the Superintendent to sign such an agreement.

Carried

Wentland- Mentor.pdf

16.05 ICR- Mentoring in Architecture with J. Welton

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 Janus Welton retained as an Architecture Mentor effective February 11, 2026 through June 26, 2026 at a maximum rate of $250.00 with no fringe benefits or deductions and authorizes the Superintendent to sign such an agreement.

Carried

Welton- Mentor.pdf

16.06 ICR- Nutty Scientists Hudson Valley

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 Jessica Jacobsen, Nutty Scientists Hudson Valley retained as "Ice Age" Assembly effective March 9, 2026 at a maximum rate of $375.00 with no fringe benefits or deductions and authorizes the Superintendent to sign such an agreement.

Carried

Nutty Scientists -Hudson Valley - ICR.pdf

16.07 Arlington CSD Health and Welfare Services

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Arlington Central School District hereby establishes the rate of $1,126.22 per pupil for the 2025–2026 school year for Health

and Welfare Services provided to Onteora Central School District resident pupils attending nonpublic schools located within the Arlington Central School District; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board President and the Clerk of the Board of Education are hereby authorized to execute any and all contracts necessary for the provision of health services for the 2025–2026 school year.

Carried

Arlington CSD H and W Services.pdf

17. Policies

17.01 First Reading of Policy 3435 Culture, Climate and Belonging
Culture Climate and Belonging policy 3435 update to policy.pdf

17.02 First Reading of Policy 5659 Free Meal Services
Free Meals Service policy 5659.pdf

17.03 First Reading of Policy 5660 "Charging" Meals and Other Food Items
5660 charging meals and other food items.pdf

17.04 First Reading of Policy 5681 School Safety Plans and Teams
School Safety Plans and Teams - with updates.pdf

17.05 First Reading of Policy 5720 Scheduling and Routing
5720 Scheduling and Routing with 2026 changes.pdf

17.06 First Reading of Policy 5730 Transportation of Students
5730 Transportation of Students with 2026 updates.pdf

18. Committee Reports

18.01 Updates from Board Committees
Trustee Smith reported that the Facilities Committee met on January 15, 2026 at Bennett Elementary School. The Committee reviewed the Optimizing Onteora initiative and

Draft

the Building Condition Survey. Updates were provided on the elevator project, ceiling abatement, and the middle school gym floor project, noting that bids are currently out. Trustee Smith also reported on the well drilling project behind the Bennett garden. During the process, a pipe was broken; however, the project will restart in the spring at no additional cost to the District. The next Facilities Committee meeting is scheduled for March 19th at the Middle School/High School.

Trustee Jerome reported that the Communications Committee met and confirmed that Board Briefs are ready for distribution in both print and digital formats.

Assistant Superintendent LaClair reported that the Health & Wellness Committee met to discuss the upcoming "Meet, Greet and Eat" event. The next meeting is scheduled for February 18th.

19. Unfinished Business

19.01 The Board will discuss Unfinished Business
nothing discussed

20. New Business

20.01 The Board will discuss New Business
nothing discussed

21. Request for Information

21.01 Board Members will Request Information of the Superintendent
Trustee Bishop requested additional information from the District's attorneys regarding the single polling location, and, if necessary, from the Board of Elections.

Trustee Knutsen requested an update on the design phases of the central campus project. Superintendent McLaren reported that members of the design team will be meeting with staff over the next month to gather input as part of the

Draft

initial phase of planning.

Trustee Knutsen inquired whether students would also be involved. Superintendent McLaren confirmed that students will be included in the process.

Trustee Bishop asked that the central campus design update be placed on the agenda for discussion at the next Board of Education meeting.

22. Adjournment

22.01 Adjourn the Meeting. Next meeting is March, 3, 2026 at 6:00pm at the Woodstock School.
The meeting is adjourned at 9:28 pm

Moved by: Caroline Jerome
Seconded by: Emily Mitchell-Marell

Carried

District Clerk

Draft

Personnel Agenda for BOE Meeting 03/03/2026

LEAVE OF ABSENCE: INSTRUCTIONAL

EMPLOYEE NUMBER	EFFECTIVE DATE FROM -TO	REASON
3703	03/02/26 – 03/16/26	FMLA
4127	04/20/26 – 06/26/26	Extended Parental Leave of Absence

ADMINISTRATIVE LEAVE OF ABSENCE

EMPLOYEE NUMBER	EFFECTIVE DATE FROM -TO	REASON
040125	03/04/26 – 03/17/26	Extended leave and reassigned pursuant to Superintendent

RESIGNATION: SUBSTITUTE

NAME	POSITION	EFFECTIVE DATE	REMARKS
Godduhn, Anna	Substitute – Uncertified Teacher, Uncertified TA and School Monitor	02/08/26	Personal

TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT: INSTRUCTIONAL

NAME	POSITION/SCHOOL	EFFECTIVE DATE	RATE
Millman, Michelle	Elementary Teacher/ Bennett	04/21/26 – 06/30/26	MA Step 1 – extended

EXTRA DUTY STIPENDS

NAME	POSITION	AMOUNT
Duffy, John	Track-Modified- Head Coach (boys)	$2,850.00
Funk, Brianna	Track-Spring-Assistant Coach (volunteer)	$-0-
King, Halle	Track-Spring-Assistant Coach (volunteer)	$-0-
Wall, Giovanna	Track-Spring-Assistant Coach	$4,000.00

CAREER ACADEMIES AT IPARK 87

300 Enterprise Drive
Kingston, NY
12401
845-331-6680

Ulster BOCES FFA Convention for Onteora HS

Young Professionals Attending:

[redacted]

Itinerary:
5/13/26-5/16/26

Departure: Ulster BOCES, May 13, 2026, 9:00am

Visit Niagara Falls on 5/13/26, Convention begins 5/14/26

Return: May 16, 2026, 5:00pm, Students must have a ride waiting.

Hotel:
Hampton Inn and Suites, 220 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14202

Cost to Young Professionals:
$0

Agenda: NY State FFA Convention 5/14-5/16/2026

ONTEORA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

PO Box 300, Boiceville, NY 12412
ph. 845.657.2373 • fax 845.657.8430
www.onteora.k12.ny.us

ONTEORA MIDDLE SCHOOL
DON SOLIMENE
Interim Principal
dsolimene@onteora.k12.ny.us

NYSBDA Middle School Band Symposium for Onteora MS

Student attending:
[redacted]

Itinerary:
3/6/26 – 3/8/26

Transportation:
Student will be driven to and from event by parent/guardian

Location:
Carrier Circle Double Tree
6301 NY-298, East Syracuse, NY 13057

Cost to student:
$0

Agenda:
NYSBDA Symposium Schedule 2026

ONTEORA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

4166 Route 28 PO Box 300
Boiceville, New York 12412

Memorandum

Date: 2-11-2025

To: Monica LaClair, Assistant Superintendent for Business

From: Ray Szajko

Subject: Surplus Item 3D Makerbot

Listed below is a 3D Makerbot Printer from Room# 44/ Mr. Sanders that has reached the end of its useful life. The item listed is recommended to be deemed as surplus property by the Board of Education, and that it either be auctioned or recycled. Thank you.

1- Inoperative obsolete 3D Makerbot 5th gen printer Onteora CSD ID Tag# 21457

ONTEORA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

4166 Route 28 PO Box 300
Boiceville, New York 12412

Memorandum

Date: 2-19-2025

To: Monica LaClair, Assistant Superintendent for Business

From: Ray Szajko

Subject: Surplus Items

Listed below are various items that are at the end of their intended useful life. The items listed below are recommended to be deemed as surplus property by the Board of Education, and that they either be auctioned or recycled. Thank you.

1- Qty.1-Mail Slot Sorted Box
2- Qty.1- Two Drawer File Cabinet
3- Qty.7- Non-functioning Sewing Machines
4- Qty.6- Student Desks
5- Qty.1- 5 Drawer Filing Cabinet (Damaged)

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ONTEORA MIDDLE SCHOOL
DON SOLIMENE
Interim Principal
dsolimene@onteora.k12.ny.us

2/27/26

Ashley Bishop, the middle school yearbook advisor, was going through the storage closet and found extra yearbooks from previous years that are no longer needed. She has a copy of each book for future yearbook advisors; the MS/HS Library and the MS main office have a copy of each book as well. Woodstock and Bennett did not want copies. Could we please surplus the following yearbooks?

Middle School
2005- 1 copies
2006- 1 copies
2011-12- 1 copies
2014-15- 1 copies
2018-19- 69 copies
2019-20- 17 copies
2022-23- 35 copies

Thank you,
Don Solimene

Sports Broadcasting/Analyzing

ONTEORA
CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

4166 Route 28, Boiceville, NY 12412
ph. 845.657.8499 • fax 845.657.8742
www.onteora.k12.ny.us

CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION
MONICA LACLAIR, CPA
Assistant Superintendent for Business
mlaclair@onteora.k12.ny.us

INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR RETAINER

Name: Pearllan Mary P. Cipriano

Address: 80 Carriage Drive, Red Hook, NY 12571

Telephone Number: 650-305-6073

In accordance with Education Law of the State of New York, and the regulations of the Onteora Central School District, you are hereby retained as ~~trainer~~ mentor effective January 2026 to June 2026 at a rate of $ 250.00 ~~per day~~ to a maximum of $ 250.00 with no fringe benefits or deductions. Onteora CSD or its designee reserves the right to monitor all contracts, including purchase orders, from commencement until completion and to certify satisfactory and timely performance/completion of the contract prior to the District's authorization of payment of the agreed contract amount to the contractor. You will be paid on invoices submitted by you, stating the dates and hours of the services you rendered and your total fee. If applicable, you will be required to attend any meetings in reference to the evaluation/report submitted and reports must be submitted for reimbursement. The terms and conditions of this contract are subject to formal approval by the Board of Education. Please sign below and return to the Program Supervisor's Office as soon as possible.

I hereby assert that I am duly qualified as provided by the Education Law, and that I hereby accept the retainer for services under the conditions set forth above.

Signature _____ Date 2/19/26

Pearllan Mary Pantaleon Cipriano
Print Name

[redacted]
Social Security Number or Federal Tax ID

FOR DISTRICT USE ONLY

Approved by: _____
Program Supervisor

Date 02/24/25

Community Mentor - Mentorship in Sports Broadcasting
Program

A2110.491.01
Budget Code

Approved by: _____
Superintendent of Schools

Date _____

Updated 09/01/2023

ONTEORA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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ph. 845.657.8499 • fax 845.657.8742
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CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION
MONICA LACLAIR, CPA
Assistant Superintendent for Business
mlaclair@onteora.k12.ny.us

INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR RETAINER

Name: Argos Animal Hospital

Address: 4155 Route 28 Boiceville, NY

Telephone Number: 845-657-8899

In accordance with Education Law of the State of New York, and the regulations of the Onteora Central School District, you are hereby retained as trainer effective January 2026 to June 2026 at a rate of $ 250.00 ~~per day~~ to a maximum of $ 250.00 with no fringe benefits or deductions. Onteora CSD or its designee reserves the right to monitor all contracts, including purchase orders, from commencement until completion and to certify satisfactory and timely performance/completion of the contract prior to the District's authorization of payment of the agreed contract amount to the contractor. You will be paid on invoices submitted by you, stating the dates and hours of the services you rendered and your total fee. If applicable, you will be required to attend any meetings in reference to the evaluation/report submitted and reports must be submitted for reimbursement. The terms and conditions of this contract are subject to formal approval by the Board of Education. Please sign below and return to the Program Supervisor's Office as soon as possible.

I hereby assert that I am duly qualified as provided by the Education Law, and that I hereby accept the retainer for services under the conditions set forth above.

Signature _____ Date 3/4/26

Ulysses Rosenzweig, DVM [redacted]

Print Name Social Security Number or Federal Tax ID

FOR DISTRICT USE ONLY

Approved by: _____ Program Supervisor Date 03/05/26

Community Master - Vet Program A2110.4449.01 Budget Code

Approved by: _____ Superintendent of Schools Date _____

Updated 09/01/2023

ONTEORA
CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
4166 Route 28 Boiceville, NY 12412
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www.onteora.k12.ny.us

MONICA LACLAIR
BUSINESS OFFICE
Assistant Superintendent for Business
mlaclair@onteora.k12.ny.us

INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR RETAINER

Name: Tiffany Bonini, MSN, APRN, PMHNP-BC

Address: 9 Marwood Dr. Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

Telephone Number: 845-549-3171

In accordance with Education Law of the State of New York, and the regulations of the Onteora Central School District, you are hereby retained as ~~Psych NP~~ Psychiatric Evaluation effective MARCH 3, 2026 to 6.30.26 ~~Psychiatric Evaluation~~ at a rate of $900. evaluation per ~~day~~ to a maximum of ~~$3300.00~~ with no fringe benefits or deductions. Onteora CSD or its designee reserves the right to monitor all contracts, including purchase orders, from commencement until completion and to certify satisfactory and timely performance/completion of the contract prior to the District's authorization of payment of the agreed contract amount to the contractor. You will be paid on invoices submitted by you, stating the dates and hours that the services you rendered and your total fee. If applicable, you will be required to attend any meetings in reference to the evaluation/report submitted and reports must be submitted for reimbursement. The terms and conditions of this contract are subject to formal approval by the Board of Education. Please sign below and return to the Program Supervisor's Office as soon as possible.

$900 per evaluation
$200/hr for CSE meeting participation

I hereby assert that I am duly qualified as provided by the Education Law, and that I hereby accept the retainer for services under the conditions set forth above.

Tiffany Bonini — Signature
2/19/2026 — Date

Tiffany Bonini — Print Name
[redacted] — Social Security Number or Federal Tax ID

FOR DISTRICT USE ONLY

Approved by: Carol Grime — Program Supervisor
2/24/2026 — Date

PPS Department — Program
A2010.449.-09 — Budget Code

Approved by: _____ — Superintendent of Schools
_____ — Date

Updated 08/31/2023

ONTEORA
CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

4166 Route 28, Boiceville, NY 12412
ph. 845.657.8499 • fax 845.657.8742
www.onteora.k12.ny.us

MONICA LACLAIR
BUSINESS OFFICE
Assistant Superintendent for Business
mlaclair@onteora.k12.ny.us

INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR RETAINER

Name: Richard Hahn MD

Address: ~~PO Box 925~~ Harriman, NY 10926

Telephone Number: 914-213-5954

In accordance with Education Law of the State of New York, and the regulations of the Onteora Central School District, you are hereby retained as Psychiatric Evaluations effective 3.4.26 to 6.30.26 at a rate of $1500 per eval (*) per day to a maximum of $6,000.00 with no fringe benefits or deductions. Onteora CSD or its designee reserves the right to monitor all contracts, including purchase orders, from commencement until completion and to certify satisfactory and timely performance/completion of the contract prior to the District's authorization of payment of the agreed contract amount to the contractor. You will be paid on invoices submitted by you, stating the dates and hours that the services you rendered and your total fee. If applicable, you will be required to attend any meetings in reference to the evaluation/report submitted and reports must be submitted for reimbursement. The terms and conditions of this contract are subject to formal approval by the Board of Education. Please sign below and return to the Program Supervisor's Office as soon as possible.

(*) $2000.00 for Eval and attendance at meeting

I hereby assert that I am duly qualified as provided by the Education Law, and that I hereby accept the retainer for services under the conditions set forth above.

[signature] — Signature

2/24/26 — Date

Richard Hahn, MD — Print Name

[redacted] — Social Security Number or Federal Tax ID

FOR DISTRICT USE ONLY

Approved by: Carol Devine — Program Supervisor

2/25/2026 — Date

PPS Department — Program

A2010.449.-09 — Budget Code

Approved by: _____ — Superintendent of Schools

_____ — Date

Updated 08/31/2023

INVOICE COVER PAGE

TO: Onteora CS
5203 NY-28
Boiceville, NY 12412
Torre Sommer
tsommer@onteora.k12.ny.us

FROM: Catskill Mountain Shakespeare
Frank Wildermann, Managing Director
f.wildermann@catskillmountainshakespeare.com
917-696-1615

DATE: 2/13/26

RE: PERFORMANCE of Hamlet on Thursday 4/30/26 at 9am with Q&A to immediately follow

TOTAL FEE: $1500 due and payable on or before 4/1/26

PLEASE REMIT PAYMENT TO:
Catskill Mountain Shakespeare
74 Spruceton Road
West Kill, NY 12492-5509
EIN#84-4624412

THANK YOU!

EDUCATION PROGRAM CONTRACT

DATE: 2/13/26 (the "Effective Date")

Onteora CS, having an address at 5203 NY-28 Boiceville, NY 12412 and hereinafter referred to as "CONTRACTOR", and Catskill Mountain Shakespeare, a domestic not-for-profit organization, having an address at 74 Spruceton Road West Kill, NY 12492-5509, hereinafter referred to as "CMS" agree to the terms of this Education Program Contract (together with the Invoice Cover Page, the "Agreement") as follows:

1. **PROGRAM:**
   - **a.** **Program(s) to be presented:**
     1 performance(s) of *Hamlet*, Q&A with actors
   - **b.** **Program Specifics:** Thursday 4/30/26 (the "Presentation Date")
     9:00am (the "Presentation Time")
   - **c.** **Program Location:** Onteora CS (the "Presentation Space")
   - **d.** **Contact Parties:**

     Contractor Contact:
     Torre Sommer
     tsommer@onteora.k12.ny.us

     CMS Contact:
     Frank Wildermann, Managing Director
     917-696-1615
     f.wildermann@catskillmountainshakespeare.com

2. **FACILITY:**
   a. CONTRACTOR agrees to provide a suitable program space, including, without limitation, access to electric power in order to support any CMS-provided sound system, and shall provide specifics of such program space to CMS prior to the Presentation Date.
   b. CONTRACTOR agrees to provide exclusive use of the Presentation Space to CMS beginning no later than 1.5 hours before the scheduled Presentation Time.
   c. Unless otherwise agreed upon in advance, CMS will vacate the Presentation Space no later than approximately 2 hours after the end of the final scheduled event.

3. **REPRESENTATIVES:**
   a. CONTRACTOR shall designate indicated person: Torre Sommer (or such other person designated in writing prior to CMS's arrival on the Presentation Date) (the "Approved

Representative") , at the Presentation Space. The Approved Representative shall meet CMS and guide them to the Presentation Space.

b. CONTRACTOR agrees that at least one Approved Representative shall be present at all times that students/minors are present.
c. CONTRACTOR assures CMS that a technical support person will be available on site to timely ensure the proper mechanical and/or other functioning of the facilities to be used.

4. **COMPENSATION:** It is agreed that as full compensation for the services mentioned, CONTRACTOR will pay to CMS the sum of $1500. Payment(s) shall be made in the manner set forth on the Invoice Cover Page of this Agreement.

5. **LIABILITY:** CONTRACTOR shall be responsible for, and agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the Board of Directors of CMS, its executive officers, agents, employees, faculty, representatives, and associates from all loss, damage suits, claims, costs, expenses, demands, judgments or liabilities, of whatsoever kind or nature, arising out of or in any way connected with the CONTRACTOR's or CMS's activities under this Agreement, except when due solely to the gross negligence of CMS, its officers, agents, employees, faculty, representatives or associates.

6. **INSURANCE AND INDEMNIFICATION:**
   a. CMS agrees to maintain workers' compensation insurance at legal levels on its employees.
   b. CMS agrees to maintain general liability and commercial umbrella insurance with a limit of no less than two million dollars ($2,000,000) aggregate and one million dollars ($1,000,000) per occurrence.
   c. CONTRACTOR agrees to maintain workers' compensation insurance at legal levels on its employees.
   d. CONTRACTOR agrees to maintain general liability and commercial umbrella insurance with a limit of no less than two million dollars ($2,000,000) aggregate and one million dollars ($1,000,000) per occurrence.

7. **CANCELLATION:**
   a. **Weather-Related:** If more than two-thirds of the audience is unable to attend the program(s) and/or the CONTRACTOR's school district is closed due to inclement weather, CONTRACTOR shall retain the right to reschedule the program(s) for a mutually acceptable future date. If the employees of CMS are unable to travel to the program(s) due to inclement weather, CMS shall retain the right to reschedule the program(s) for a mutually acceptable future date. In either event, CONTRACTOR and CMS will work together to reschedule the program(s) or a similar Shakespeare title at a later, mutually acceptable date. Any rescheduled program(s) must occur before 5/3/26 (the "Outside Date").
   b. **Force Majeure:** In the event that the performance of any of the covenants of this Agreement shall be prevented by an act of God, physical disability, the acts and regulation of public authorities or labor unions, strike, civil tumult, war, terrorism, epidemic, interruption or delay of transportation service, or any cause beyond what can be construed as reasonable control, CONTRACTOR and CMS will reschedule the performance at a mutually acceptable date which is prior to the Outside Date. If no agreement can be reached concerning a rescheduled date, CONTRACTOR's fee will be returned less any and all amounts already spent by CMS on the direct production of this (these) program(s).
   c. **Breach:** In the event CONTRACTOR 1) materially breaches this Agreement and fails to cure the breach after receiving notice and a reasonable opportunity to cure, and/or 2) fails to make any of the payment(s) required under this Agreement, CMS shall have the right to refuse to perform the program. Notwithstanding the exercise of such right by CMS, any amount already

paid to CMS by CONTRACTOR shall be retained by CMS and any balance remaining under this Agreement shall immediately become payable to CMS in full.

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8. **TERMS OF AGREEMENT:** This Agreement contains the entire understanding of the parties and may only be amended or modified in writing, and shall be construed, governed and interpreted pursuant to the laws of the State of New York applicable to agreements to be performed therein. This Agreement may not be assigned or transferred.

9. **ARBITRATION:** Any claims, dispute, or controversy arising out of or relating to this Agreement shall be settled by arbitration administered by the American Arbitration Association. Judgment on any award rendered by the arbitrator may be entered in any court, state or federal, having jurisdiction, the prevailing party to the arbitration being entitled to all costs including reasonable attorneys' fees.

10. **PARTNERSHIP:** This Agreement shall not, in any way, be construed so as to create a partnership, or any other kind of joint venture or undertaking, between the parties. CMS is an independent contractor, and not an employee of, the CONTRACTOR.

11. **COUNTERPARTS:** This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which taken together shall constitute on and the same instrument. Electronic signatures (via DocuSign or .pdf) shall have the same force and effect as original signatures.

12. **AUTHORITY**: Each of CONTRACTOR and CMS represents and warrants that they are duly authorized to execute and deliver this Agreement and each signatory executing and delivering this Agreement is duly authorized to do so.

13. **PHOTO WAIVER:** Photography may take place during the performance. By signing this contract CONTRACTOR allows CMS to use said photos for any legal use, including but not limited to: publicity, marketing, web content, and other media. CONTRACTOR also hereby releases CMS and its agents and employees from all claims, demands, liabilities whatsoever in connection with above. (Persons who do not grant permission for photography or do not agree to a photo release agreement are advised to sit near the rear of the audience).

[*no further text; signature page follows*]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, CONTRACTOR and CMS have duly executed this Agreement as of the day and year first above written.

CONTRACTOR:

Onteora CS

By: _____
Name:
Title:
Date:

CMS:

CATSKILL MOUNTAIN SHAKESPEARE,
a domestic not-for-profit organization

By: _____
Name: Frank Wildermann
Title: Managing Director
Date: 2/13/26

[*signature page to Education Program Contract*]

Docusign Envelope ID: 610E20D9-E783-4D3B-9EC6-ADC7E58792CA

New York State School Boards Association
Better School Boards Lead to Better Student Performance

24 Century Hill Drive, Suite 200
Latham, New York 12110-2125
Tel: 518.783.0200 | Fax: 518.783.0211
www.nyssba.org

LETTER OF CONFIRMATION

February 24, 2026

Mrs. Victoria McLaren, Superintendent
Onteora Central School District
4166 NY-28
Boiceville, NY 12412

Dear Superintendent McLaren:

Based on conversations with your school district, this letter confirms the Onteora Central School District requests the New York State School Boards Association to conduct an in-person Custom Board Retreat (CBR) for the Board of Education and Superintendent. Ann Laszewski will facilitate this retreat. The topics will concentrate on the roles and responsibilities of school board members and the superintendent, developing team operation procedures, and a review of the board operations survey results. The retreat will take place on the following date and time at the location specified below:

Date & Time:	**Friday, March 20, 2026 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**
Location:	**Onteora Central School District – District Office**

The District agrees to comply with all COVID-19 social distancing requirements as set forth in whatever constitutes the source of such mandates and to ensure that all participants in the CBR will adhere to their responsibilities to follow all such legal obligations set forth in those mandates.

The fee for this CBR is **$3000**. NYSSBA will send an invoice to the district after the program has been completed. Your receipt of this letter and your returning a signed copy of it to us will be deemed acceptance of its provisions unless you notify our office otherwise. *(Notification must be made no later than 72 hours prior to **3/20/26**. The district will be responsible for the full retreat amount should the event be cancelled after this time.)*

If you or the board members have questions about this custom program, please contact Darci D'Ercole, Chief Governance & Leadership Development Officer at darci.dercole@nyssba.org or 1-800-342-3360.

We are pleased to have this opportunity to serve the Onteora Central School District.

NEW YORK STATE SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

DocuSigned by:

BY: Kristina M Oliver — February 24, 2026

Kristina M. Oliver, CPA — Date
Chief Financial Officer

ONTEORA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

DocuSigned by:

BY: Victoria McLaren — February 24, 2026

Victoria McLaren — Date
Superintendent

Culture, Climate and Belonging

The Board of Education is committed to creating and maintaining a positive and inclusive learning environment where all students, especially those currently and historically marginalized, feel safe, included, welcomed, and accepted, and experience a sense of belonging and academic success.

Generally Accepted Beliefs and Agreements

All children deserve to have equal access to opportunity. This freedom is fundamental to our K-12 education program and is extended to everyone without exception. However, the district also recognizes that students have been historically marginalized due to inequities associated with aspects of their identities and their contexts, including, but not limited to, age, race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sex; sexual orientation, or gender (including gender identity and expression), socioeconomic class, or other human differences. Racism, discrimination, and marginalization of any people or groups of people, whether intentional or not, have no place in our schools, our district or our community. Such actions damage not only those individuals and groups at which they are directed, but also our community as a whole. We are committed to addressing these inequities and helping each and every student to equitably access learning opportunities in school to enable them all to thrive and to build a better society.

Goals

The goal of the school district is to provide equitable, inclusive and diverse opportunities for all students to reach their highest potential. To achieve educational equity and inclusive education, the district will acknowledge the presence of culturally diverse students and the need for students to find relevant connections among themselves and the subject matter and the tasks teachers ask them to perform. The district will develop the individual and organizational knowledge, attitudes, skills, and practices to create culturally responsive learning and working environments that expect and support high academic achievement for students and employees from all racial groups. Differences will not just be seen as strengths, but they will be nourished, celebrated, and welcomed because they are what make students and families unique.

In order to truly realize this goal, it is imperative that the Board, its officers, and employees, be fully conversant in the historical injustices and inequalities that have shaped our society and to recognize and work to eliminate the institutional barriers, including
racism and biases, that contribute to the pervasive, disparate educational outcomes within our schools.

(continued)

Culture, Climate and Belonging (cont'd)

racism and biases, that contribute to the pervasive, disparate educational outcomes within our schools.

Equity and inclusive education aims to understand, identify, address, and eliminate the biases, barriers, and disparities that limit a student's chance to graduate high school prepared for college, for a career, and for life.

The Superintendent or designee(s) will ensure that curriculum and instructional materials reflect the Board's commitment to educational equity. Curriculum and instructional materials for all grades shall reflect diversity and include a range of perspectives and experiences, particularly those of historically underrepresented groups. All curriculum materials shall be examined for bias. Class instructional activities and extracurricular programs shall be designed to provide opportunities for cross-cultural and cross-racial interactions that foster respect for diversity.

Equity and inclusive education is an ongoing process that requires shared commitment and leadership if a district is to meet the ever-evolving society, unique learning needs of all students, and diverse backgrounds of our communities and schools. The Board understands that equity and inclusive education is achieved when each adult collaborates and affirms each student by creating a respectful learning environment inclusive of actual or perceived personal characteristics.

Educational equity is based on the principles of fairness and ensuring that every student has access to the resources and educational rigor they need at the right moment in their education, despite any individual's actual or perceived personal characteristics, not to be used interchangeably with principles of equality, treating all students the same.

Inclusive education is based on the principles of acceptance and inclusion of all students. Students see themselves reflected in their curriculum, their physical surroundings and the broader environment, in which diversity is honored and all individuals are respected.

Diversity in education means students, staff, families and community are our greatest strength and diversity is viewed as an asset. Diversity means the condition of being different or having differences, including, but not limited to, age, race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sex; sexual orientation, or gender (including gender identity and expression), socioeconomic class, or other human differences. Embracing these diversities and moving beyond tolerance and celebration to inclusivity and respect will help the district reach our goal of creating a community that ensures that each and every voice is heard and valued.

(continued)

Culture, Climate and Belonging (cont'd)

Accountability, Transparency and Review

The Board, its officers and employees, accepts responsibility and will hold themselves and each other accountable for every student having full access to quality education, qualified teachers, challenging curriculum, full opportunity to learn, and sufficient, individually-tailored support for learning so they can achieve at excellent levels in academic and other student outcomes. The district also accepts its responsibility for moving forward on this journey and to committing time, energy and resources to develop a more equitable, inclusive, and diverse welcoming environment for all students, parents and staff. ~~To this end, the Superintendent will establish a district-wide Task Force.~~

The Superintendent of Schools, or designee, will adopt goals and corresponding metrics related to this policy. The district will identify the indicators necessary to monitor student outcomes, engagement, and school climate.

With committee input, the Superintendent of Schools is directed to develop and implement a plan for ensuring that equitable educational opportunities are being provided to all students, pulling inspiration from the NYS Culturally Responsive Sustaining Education Framework. Age-appropriate instructional materials will be incorporated into the curriculum to educate students so that they can learn from a diverse range of experiences and points of view. Curricular materials and staffing decisions will support these efforts.

The Board of Education and the Superintendent will monitor and review the district's metrics and equity activities to determine whether this policy is having a positive effect for all students and increasing family engagement and reducing achievement gaps.

Equity Policy Communication

To be successful in this endeavor, it is imperative that all members of the school community are aware of this policy, its purpose, procedures and the district's commitment to equity and inclusion by fostering a positive learning environment that embraces all diverse, unique and individual differences.

This policy will be posted on the district's website and in other appropriate school publications.

Adoption date: 04/01/25

FREE MEAL SERVICES

Community Eligibility Provision and/or Provision 2

The Board of Education recognizes that the nutrition of district students is an important factor in their educational progress. The district therefore participates in federally-funded school meal programs. As required by state law, the district provides free meals to all students by adopting either the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP), Provision 2 (P2), or a combination of these provisions, to maximize the federal reimbursement.

Individual schools, or groupings of schools, are eligible for CEP if the "Identified Student Percentage" (ISP) is at least 25%. "Identified Students" are those who are eligible for free meals because they are directly certified under programs such as Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Medicaid, Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), or the student lives in a household where a student is directly certified ("household extension"). Identified Students also include those who are "categorically" eligible, such as students who are homeless, migrant, foster, or runaway, or those participating in Head Start/Even Start programs.

If the schools in the district do not qualify to adopt CEP as a single entity, the district will determine the combination of schools grouped to participate in CEP or P2 to maximize CEP participation. The district will reapply annually for CEP if it would result in a higher ISP.
Schools adopting CEP serve both breakfast and lunch to all students at no charge. Schools adopting P2 serve breakfast and/or lunch to all students at no charge. However, state law requires that all schools containing grades K-6, and all schools considered "severe need" (i.e., that served at least 40% of lunches the prior year to students eligible for free or reduced-price meals) must serve breakfast, unless granted a waiver by the State Education Department.

Maximizing Eligibility

The district will maximize the number of students who are eligible for free meals. At least three times a year (at the start of school, during December or January, and April), the district will conduct the Direct Certification Matching Process. The district will also designate children who are eligible for free meals through household extension or categorical eligibility.

When household applications for free or reduced-price meals are not required (i.e., during CEP years or P2 non-base years), the district will encourage families to submit household income eligibility forms, to assist them in applying for other benefits to which they may be entitled.

(continued)

FREE MEAL SERVICES (cont'd)

The district will conduct outreach activities to provide students and their families with information about SNAP availability, eligibility requirements, and the enrollment process, to maximize direct certification for free school meals. These activities may be coordinated within existing communication channels and activities. The district will provide application assistance or direct referral to outreach partners. This must include at least one of the following: direct referrals to local SNAP outreach providers; distribution of SNAP educational materials during school registration or other appropriate venues accessible to families; and/or direct referrals to local social services districts).

Ref: National School Lunch Act of 1946, as amended, (42 U.S.C. §§1751-1760)
Child Nutrition Act of 1966, as amended, (42 USC §§1771 et seq.)
Education Law §915-a
Social Services Law §95(7)
7 CFR Part 245 (245.2, free and reduced-price meals; 245.5, public announcement; 245.6, direct certification; 245.9, Community Eligibility Provision, Provision 2)
8 NYCRR §114.6

Adoption date:

SUBJECT: ~~SCHOOL MEAL SERVICE PROGRAM (LUNCH AND BREAKFAST)~~
"CHARGING" MEALS AND OTHER FOOD ITEMS

All schools in the district participate in either the Community Eligibility Provision or Provision 2 program of the USDA. This allows the district to provide free breakfast and/or lunch to all students at no charge. If students wish to purchase additional meals or other food items, they must pay for those items at the time of the sale. The district does not permit charging to accounts if students do not have funds available for such "a la carte" items.

Staff members are allowed to purchase food from the district's food services program. However, all purchases must be paid for at the point of sale by cash, check, payment account, credit/debit card online. Staff members are not allowed to charge items to be repaid later.

~~The Board of Education recognizes that the nutrition of district students is an important factor in their educational progress. The Board therefore shall participate in federally funded school lunch programs, and shall provide free or reduced-price meal services to qualified district students.~~

~~**Availability, Application and Notification**~~

~~Notice of the availability of the free and reduced-price meal programs will be sent to the homes of students, local media, the local unemployment office and large employers experiencing layoffs in the area from which the district draws its attendance. Any child who is a member of a family unit whose income is below the federally established scale shall be eligible to receive such services.~~
~~To apply for the free [or reduced price] meal program:~~

~~a. Application forms will be available in the main office of each school building and on the district web site http://www.onteora.k12.ny.us/domain/20 and can be completed and submitted at any time during the year.~~
~~b. Completed forms must be submitted to the main office of the school which the student attends prior to any determination of eligibility.~~
~~c. The parent or guardian will be informed of the determination within one week of receiving a properly completed application.~~

~~Applications will be kept confidential.~~

~~Upon written request, the Assistant Superintendent for Business will hear appeals of determinations regarding such services in compliance with federal regulations governing the National School Lunch Program.~~

~~In addition, in order to reach students who are categorically eligible for free [and reduced price] meals and to comply with state law, three times per school year the School Lunch Manager will review the list made available by the State Education Department of children ages three to 18 who are in households receiving federal food assistance, Medicaid benefits (for certain recipients), or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) to identify students within the district. The district will send a notice to those families apprising them of their student's eligibility to participate in the school meal programs without further application. Parents may decline participation by informing the district in writing. If the service is declined, the student will be removed from the eligibility list.~~

~~**Meal Charge Policy**~~

The goal of the Onteora Central School District is to provide student access to nutritious no- or low-cost meals each school day and to ensure that a pupil whose parent/guardian has unpaid school meal fees is not shamed or treated differently than a pupil whose parent/guardian does not have unpaid meal fees.

The intent of this policy is to establish procedures to address unpaid meal charges throughout the Onteora Central School District in a way that does not stigmatize, distress or embarrass students. The provisions of this policy pertain to regular priced school breakfast and lunch meals only. The Onteora Central School District provides this policy as a courtesy to those students in the event that they forget or lose their lunch money. Charging of items outside of the reimbursable meals (a la carte items, adult meals, etc.) is expressly prohibited.

(Continued)

SUBJECT: SCHOOL MEAL SERVICE PROGRAM (LUNCH AND BREAKFAST) (cont'd)

- Free Meal Benefit - Free eligible students will be allowed to receive a free breakfast and lunch each day. A la carte purchases must be paid/prepaid.

Reduced Meal Benefit - Reduced eligible students will be allowed to receive a breakfast for $.25 and lunch for $.25 each day. The charge meals offered to students will be reimbursable meals that are available to all students unless the student's parent or guardian has specifically provided written permission to the school to withhold a meal. A la carte items or other similar items must be paid/prepaid.

- Full Pay Students - Students will pay for meals at the school's published paid meal rate each day. If a student is without meal money on a consistent basis, the administration will investigate the situation more closely and take further action as needed. If financial hardship exists, parents and families are encouraged to apply for free or reduced price lunches for their child if applicable. The charge meals offered to students will be reimbursable meals that are available to all students.
- Parents/Guardians are responsible for meal payment to the food service program. Discreet notices of deficit balances will be sent to parents/guardians at regular intervals during the school year.
- Students/Parents/Guardians may pay for meals in advance via the Parent Portal or with a check payable to Onteora CSD Food Service. Further details are available on our webpage at Onteora.k12.ny.us. Funds should be maintained in accounts to minimize the possibility that a child may be without meal money on any given day. Any remaining funds for a particular student may/will be carried over to the next school year.
- Refunds for withdrawn, and graduating students; a written or e-mailed request for a refund of any money remaining in their account must be submitted. Students who are graduating at the end of the year will automatically be refunded any balance over $10.00 unless they have a sibling and then it will automatically be transferred to a sibling's account.
- Unclaimed Funds must be requested within one school year. Unclaimed funds will then become the property of the Onteora Central School District Food Service Program.
- Balances Owed collection will follow the policies and procedures set by the school.

ONGOING STAFF TRAINING:

- Staff will be trained annually and throughout the year as needed on the procedures for managing meal charges using the NYSED Webinar or the school's training program.
- Staff training includes ongoing eligibility certification for free or reduced-price meals.

PARENT NOTIFICATION:

- Parents/guardians will be notified that a student's account balance is exhausted every Wednesday and Sunday by email.
- Parents/guardians will be notified that a student has accrued meal charges every Wednesday and Sunday by email.

PARENT OUTREACH:

- Staff will communicate with parents/guardians with five or more meal charges to determine eligibility for free or reduced-price meals.

(Continued)

SUBJECT: SCHOOL MEAL SERVICE PROGRAM (LUNCH AND BREAKFAST) (cont'd)

- School staff will make two documented attempts to reach out to parents/guardians to complete a meal application in addition to the application and instructions provided in the school enrollment packet.
- School staff will contact the parent/guardian to offer assistance with completion of meal application to determine if there are other issues within the household causing the child to have insufficient funds, offering any other assistance that is appropriate.

MINIMIZING STUDENT DISTRESS:

- School will not publicly identify or stigmatize any student on the line or discuss any outstanding meal debt in the presence of any other students.
- Students who incur meal charges will not be required to wear a wristband or handstamp, or to do chores or work to pay for meals.
- Schools will not throw away a meal after it has been served because of the student's inability to pay for the meal or because of previous meal charges.
- Schools will not take any action directed at a pupil to collect unpaid school meal fees.
- Schools will deal directly with parents/guardians regarding unpaid school meal fees.

ONGOING ELIGIBILITY CERTIFICATION:

- School staff will conduct direct certification with NYSSIS or using NYSED Roster Upload at least monthly to maximize free eligibility.
- School staff will provide parents/guardians with free and reduced-price application and instructions at the beginning of each school year in school enrollment packet.
- Schools using electronic meal application will provide an explanation of the process in the school enrollment packet and instructions on how to request a paper application at no cost.
- Schools will provide at least two additional free and reduced-price applications throughout the school year to families identified as owing meal charges.
- Schools will coordinate with the foster, homeless, migrant, runaway coordinators at least monthly to certify eligible students.

National School Lunch Act of 1946, as amended, (42 U.S.C. §§1751-1760)
Child Nutrition Act of 1966, as amended, (42 USC §§1771 et seq.)

7 CFR Part 245 (245.2, Definitions; 245.5, public announcement; 245.6, categorical eligibility and direct certification/verification.)
Social Services Law §95(7)
Education Law Sections 915, 1709(22) and (23)
Policy 5661 District Health and Wellness Policy

Adopted: 8/1/18

SCHOOL SAFETY PLANS AND TEAMS

Emergencies and violent incidents in schools are critical issues that must be addressed in an expeditious and effective manner. The Board of Education recognizes its responsibility to adopt and keep current a comprehensive district-wide school safety plan and building-level emergency response plan(s) which address violence prevention, crisis intervention, emergency response and management.

Taken together, the district-wide and building-level plans provide a comprehensive approach to addressing school safety and violence prevention and provide the structure where all individuals can fully understand their roles and responsibilities for promoting the safety of the entire school community. The plans will be designed to prevent or minimize the effects of serious violent incidents and emergencies, declared state disaster emergencies involving a communicable disease or local public health emergency declaration and other emergencies and to facilitate the district's coordination with local and county resources. The plans will also address risk reduction/prevention, response and recovery with respect to a variety of types of emergencies and violent incidents in district schools and will address school closures and continuity of operations. In accordance with state law and regulation, the district will have the following safety teams and plans to deal with violence prevention, crisis intervention and emergency response and management:

Comprehensive District-Wide School Safety Team and Plan

The Board will annually appoint a district-wide school safety team that includes, but is not limited to, a representative from the following constituencies: the Board, teachers, administrators, and parent organizations, school safety personnel and other school personnel (including bus drivers and monitors). This team is responsible for the development and annual review of the comprehensive district-wide school safety plan and must consider the installation of a panic alarm system. The plan will cover all district school buildings and will address violence prevention (taking into consideration a range of programs and approaches that are designed to create a positive school climate and culture), crisis intervention, sudden cardiac arrest or similar life-threatening emergencies, emergency response and management including communication protocols, at the district level. It will include all those elements required by law and regulation, including annual multi-hazard safety training for staff and students, protocols for responding to declared state disaster emergencies involving a communicable disease that are substantially consistent with the provisions of Labor Law §27-c, and an emergency remote instruction plan.

(continued)

SCHOOL SAFETY PLANS AND TEAMS

The district-wide safety plan will include contracts or memoranda of understanding that define the relationship between the district, personnel, students, visitors, law enforcement, and public or private security personnel. These contracts or memoranda will be consistent with the Code of Conduct, and will define the roles, responsibilities, and involvement in the schools of law enforcement or security personnel. The role of school discipline will be clearly delegated to school administration.

The Board may also appoint a student representative to the district-wide school safety team. However, no confidential building-level emergency response plans will be shared with the student member, nor will the student member be present during discussion of any confidential building-level emergency response plans, or confidential portions of the district-wide emergency response strategy.

The Superintendent of Schools or designee will be the district's chief emergency officer and will coordinate communication between school staff and law enforcement and first responders. The chief emergency officer will ensure that all staff understand the district-wide school safety plan and receive annual training on the building-level emergency response plan (including all elements required by state law and regulations), violence prevention and mental health, and will also ensure that district-wide and building-level plans are completed, reviewed annually, and updated as needed by the designated dates. The chief emergency officer will ensure that the district-wide plan is coordinated with the building-level plans, and will ensure that required evacuation, emergency dismissal, and lockdown drills are conducted.

Building-Level Emergency Response Plans and Teams

Each Building Principal is responsible for annually appointing a building-level emergency response planning team that includes representation from teachers, administrators, parent organizations, school safety personnel, other school personnel (including bus drivers and monitors), law enforcement officials, fire officials and other emergency response agencies. The emergency response planning team is responsible for the development and review of a building-level emergency response plan for each district building. The plan(s) will address response to emergency situations, such as those requiring the school to shelter/shelter-in-place, hold/hold in place, evacuate, secure lockout, and lockdown and sudden cardiac arrest at the building level and will include all components required by law and regulation, including measures necessary to comply with Labor Law § 27-c to respond to public health emergencies involving a communicable disease. These confidential plans will include evacuation routes, shelter sites, medical needs, transportation and emergency notification of parents and guardians, and as of July 1, 2025,

(continued)

SCHOOL SAFETY PLANS AND TEAMS

considerations for the access and functional needs of student and staff, and procedures for the reunification of students with parents/persons in parental relation following an emergency.

To maintain security and in accordance with law, the building-level emergency response plan(s) are confidential and not subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Law or any other law.

Building-level emergency response plans will include protocols in response to carbon monoxide alarms or detection. Alarm or detection of carbon monoxide will result in the appropriate actions as described by the emergency response plan.

Building-level emergency response plans must designate:

- an emergency response team for incidents that includes appropriate school personnel, law enforcement officials, fire officials, and representatives from local, regional and/or state emergency response agencies to assist the school community in responding to a violent incident or emergency; and
- a post-incident response team that includes appropriate school personnel, medical personnel, school health personnel, mental health counselors and other related personnel to assist the community in coping with the aftermath of a serious violent incident or emergency.

During emergencies, staff are authorized to temporarily cover classroom door vision panels when it is likely to protect staff and students. For example, covering vision panels may prevent an intruder from determining if a classroom is occupied, thereby discouraging attempts to gain access. During emergencies, staff are also authorized to temporarily block doors to slow the access of intruders. Building-level emergency response plans must address the temporary covering of door vision panels and the temporary blocking of doors during emergencies.

Drills

The Building Principal is responsible for conducting drills every school year of the emergency response procedures under the building-level emergency response plan including procedures for evacuation, lockdown and emergency dismissal drills as required by state regulations.

(continued)

SCHOOL SAFETY PLANS AND TEAMS

Any drill conducted during the school day with students present must be done in a trauma-informed, developmentally and age-appropriate manner, and will not include tactics intended to mimic an actual act of violence or emergency. Except for evacuation drills, at the time a drill is

conducted, students and staff will be informed that it is a drill. The district will give parents or persons in parental relation advance notice (at least one week) prior to each drill.

Threat Assessment Teams

The Building Principal, in consultation with the Superintendent, will annually designate a threat assessment team to provide ongoing support and information in order to identify, and assess individuals who may be potential threats to safety, with the intent of minimizing acts of violence in the school community. The threat assessment team will be composed of, but not limited to, the following personnel from both within the school and the larger community, as appropriate: building administrators, legal counsel, the medical director and/or school nurse, school counselors, local mental health and social service providers, law enforcement, school resource officers, security personnel, and facilities and maintenance personnel. The team will meet regularly. The team will be mindful of the need for discretion and observance of confidentiality requirements.

Students will be encouraged to bring their concerns to any district employee. If a district employee becomes aware of a threat to the school community, they must inform the Building Principal, who will convene the threat assessment team. The Building Principal may request the participation of the following additional individuals who may have specific knowledge of the potential perpetrator: supervisors, teachers, students and parents. The Building Principal is responsible for keeping the Superintendent informed about the activities of the threat assessment team. Threat assessment team members will receive appropriate training.

Annual Review and Adoption

All plans will be annually reviewed and updated, if necessary, by the appropriate team by August 15. In conducting the review, the teams will consider any changes in organization, local conditions and other factors including an evaluation of the results of the emergency response procedures drills which may necessitate updating of plans. If the plan requires no changes, then it will remain in effect. If the district-wide plan requires change, then the updated plan will be submitted to the Board of Education in time to allow 30-days of public comment and to hold a public hearing which provides for the participation of school personnel, students and other interested parties prior to Board adoption. All plans must be adopted by the Board of Education by September 1. (continued)

SCHOOL SAFETY PLANS AND TEAMS

Reporting to the State and Law Enforcement

The Superintendent of Schools is responsible for submitting the district-level school safety plan and any amendments to the plan to the Commissioner within 30 days after its adoption, no later than October 1 of each year. The district-wide plan will be posted on the district's website. Each Building Principal is responsible for submitting the building-level emergency response plan for the building, and any amendments to the plan, to the appropriate local law enforcement agency and the state police within 30 days after its adoption, but no later than October 1 of each year.

Cross-ref: 0115, Bullying and Harassment Prevention and Intervention
5300, Code of Conduct
9700, Staff Development

Ref: Education Law §2801-a (school safety plans)
Executive Law §2B (state and local natural and manmade disaster preparedness)
Labor Law §27-c
8 NYCRR §155.17 (School Safety Plans and Teams)
School Safety Plans Guidance, New York State Education Department, June 2010

Adoption date:

Non-Instructional/Business Operations

SUBJECT: SCHEDULING AND ROUTING

Bus routes are authorized by the Board of Education and any requests for a change must be submitted to the Superintendent or their designee.

The responsibility for administering the transportation program rests with the Superintendent and administrative designee. The administration of the program will comply with all applicable laws, regulations, and policies established by federal, state and local authorities.

Mileage Limitations

Transportation services shall be provided to meet the needs of the students of the District within specified limits and areas established by the Board of Education.

The district will provide transportation only for those students in grades ~~7~~ 6 through 12 living a distance greater than one (1) mile from the school they attend or greater than one (1) mile from the nearest school bus stop on a main or feeder run, and one-half mile for students in grades K through ~~6~~ 5. A Child Safety Zone has been established surrounding the Middle/High School and Bennett and transportation is provided within this Child Safety Zone.

Calculations for mileage are made using a central point on each school campus. Routes do not include private roads, driveways, seasonal roads, or any road not maintained by the state, town, or county to ensure road maintenance standards to support student safety.

Education Law Sections 3621 and 3635

Adopted: 12/19/17
Reviewed: 06/03/25

SUBJECT: TRANSPORTATION OF STUDENTS

Requests For Transportation to and From Nonpublic Schools

The parent or guardian of a parochial or private school child residing in the School District who desires that the child be transported to a parochial or private school outside of the School District during the next school year should submit a written request to the ~~Board of Education~~ Onteora Transportation Department no later than April 1 of the preceding year, or within thirty (30) days of moving into the district. ~~No late request of a parent or guardian shall be denied where a reasonable explanation is provided for the delay. Students must live within a 15-mile radius of chosen private school. If student does not, they must meet the bus at an existing bus stop within the 15-mile radius.~~

A. Students must live within a 15-mile radius of the chosen private school. If the student does not, they must meet the bus at an existing bus stop within the 15 mile radius.
B. Any requests received after April 1st will not be granted an individual bus stop, but must meet the bus at an existing bus stop within the 15-mile radius.
C. Requests for transportation to and from a parochial or private school must be made annually.
D. This deadline for requests is established by the NYS Department of Education.

Requests for Transportation to and From Daycare and Split Households

The district defines daycare to mean the regularly scheduled caregiver of the student. The district defines split households to mean multiple legal guardians of a student or students in the same family who reside separately. Both households must be within the Onteora Central School District boundaries to be eligible for transportation.

The parent or guardian of a child residing in the School District who desires that the child be transported to and/or from a daycare or split household during the next school year should submit a written request to the Onteora Transportation Department no later than April 1 of the preceding year, or within thirty (30) days of moving into the district.

A. Transportation to and/or from daycare and split households must be on a consistent weekly schedule so that the district may establish bus routes.
B. Requests for daycare or split household transportation that cross school building attendance zone boundaries will be considered on a case-by-case basis and granted if there is an existing bus route established that has capacity for additional ridership.
C. Requests for transportation to and from a daycare or a split household must be made annually.

Transportation of Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities in the District shall be transported up to fifty (50) miles (one way) from their home to the appropriate special service or program, unless the Commissioner certifies that no appropriate nonresidential special service or program is available within fifty (50) miles. The Commissioner may then establish transportation arrangements.

Transportation of Non-Resident Students

The District shall not extend its bus routes outside of the District to pick up non-resident students.

Transportation to School Sponsored Events

Where the District has provided transportation to students enrolled in the District to a school sponsored field trip, district extracurricular activity or any other similar event, it shall provide transportation back to either the point of departure or to the appropriate school in the District unless the parent or legal guardian of the student has provided the District with written notice. Written notice must be consistent with District policy, authorizing an alternative form of return transportation for such student unless intervening circumstances make such transportation impractical. In cases where transportation of a student back to the point of departure or to the appropriate school is impractical, a representative of the School District shall remain with the student until the student's parent or legal guardian has been informed of the circumstances and the student has been delivered to their parent or legal guardian.

Education Law Sections 1604, 1709, 1804, 1903, 1950, 2503, 2554, 2590-e, 3635, 4401(4), 4404, and 4405

Adopted: 12/19/17
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