

Oyster River Cooperative School District

Regular Meeting

February 6, 2019

High School

DRAFT

SCHOOL BOARD: Brian Cisneros, Tom Newkirk, Dan Klein, Michael Williams, Al Howland, and Denise Day. Absent: Kenny Rotner, Patty Anderson

ADMINISTRATORS: James Morse, Todd Allen, Sue Caswell, Suzanne Filippone, Jay Richard, David Goldsmith, Catherine Plourde, Carrie Vaich, Josh Olstad, Jim Rozycki, Doris Demers.

There were no members of the public present.

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Tom acknowledged the passing of Jim Kach. He was a great coach, member of the School Board and instrumental in hiring Dr. Morse. We send our sympathy to this wife Nancy and son Sean.

6:30 – 7:00 Manifest Review at each School Board Meeting

7:00 – 7:45 Strategic Plan Schedule

- High School Technology/New Middle School
- Facilities/School Nutrient

Dr. Morse explained the adjustments were made. Goal would be to bring these to the Board in April. Suzanne gave the 5-year outcome for a 1 to 1 program for staff and students that would allow for an integrated curriculum. The first year would involve preparation and allow them to look at staff development. In the second year they would look at the integration as they roll out the program. Feel will need 5 years to have a successful fully rounded program.

Al asked if there was a tech integrator at the high school. They hope to budget for one in the next budget cycle. Tech integrators have made a difference in the other schools' programs. Big conversation is should we consider giving 9th graders laptops. Still having that conversation and will be coming to the Board with that.

Tom asked about cell phones in the high school. It is a challenge to make the offer of a device that is as good as what they already have. Suzanne understands the point but thinks they will use this device differently. Josh thinks students will be able to transfer from a phone to a computer easily. Al asked if we could get a group buy for students that want to buy one on their own. Discounts usually are not big until you buy at least 1000 devices. There are lots of options for group buys with the vendors. Michael talked about making sure everyone has access and we work out a transition plan.

New Middle School

Jay is focused on how we use the building to support academics. He is looking forward to getting the word out to gain support. Dr Morse would like to use some of the activities/events at the schools this Spring to get the word out.

Denise said the greater challenge will be to reach the greater public. There are community events we can attend and be available for getting the word out. Outreach is a good idea but keep in concise. Brian asked what a transition plan for the opening of the new school would look like. Jay wants to be sure we have a solid plan to make sure it goes smoothly. Building will be a teaching tool. Jay already has 2 students interested. Adjust the year for move in on his plan. It needs to be a year earlier.

School Nutrition

Doris said this was a good exercise for her. Having a plan for equipment needs is an exciting idea. All the schools are doing more meals a day for the number of workers they have. They have come a long way. They need the proper equipment to do the job. Staff training is needed especially in regard to food allergies. Commodities have improved and include fresh produce. The staff also needs training on the best way to prepare the foods. Kitchen design is important to make it a safe workplace. Michael commented that Doris and her team have done a tremendous job. He encouraged her to look for more partnerships. Growing racks will be used in each elementary school giving each grade the opportunity to use them. Mast Way kitchen should be redesigned to serve students outside the kitchen.

Facilities

Jim talked about what facilities will expect during construction. Always alert on repairs to the current building. He wants his staff to be actively involved in the construction, so they can accurately maintain the building when it is built. We have a great advantage with the team we will be working with. Security is a big topic for us. Need for more cameras in all buildings and auxiliary buildings. Jim would like to establish standard temperatures. Big push to take care of air conditioning for technology. Michael asked how we monitor temperature for technology. Every server closet has at least one temperature probe. Tennis courts are in the plan. Auditorium expansion at the high school should be considered. Denise feels this is too ambitious. Michael asked if we could include this in the capital plan with estimates.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Michael Williams moved to approve the agenda as is 2nd by Denise Day. Motion passed 6-0.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion to approve January 16th regular and non-public meeting minutes: Revisions:

Page 3 after second paragraph add Tom Newkirk raised concerns that whether implementing “common exams” would unduly restrict teachers and promote standardization. The administrators agree to review this language in light of this concern.

Page 7 Add in the 2nd non-public meeting information at the end of the last paragraph.

Denise Day moved to approve the January 16th minutes with the above revisions, 2nd by Brian Cisneros. Motion passed 6-0.

Michael Williams moved to approve both sets of minutes from the January 16th non-public meeting, 2nd by Denise Day. Motion passed 6-0.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS, COMMENDATIONS AND COMMENTS

A. District:

Suzanne Filippone acknowledged the girls track team for finishing first and the boys for finishing 3rd.

Jay Richard stated that the Math Count team competed this past weekend and finished 1st. Had over 20 students that will receive scholastic writing awards. Robotics team came in first place.

B. Board:

Denise Day thanked Carina Dolcino for facilitating the conversation about the Self Driven Child. Attended the 5th grade concert. We are up to 20 hours of lost time and wondering when we will discuss using professional development day for make-up.

Brian Cisneros attended the boys' basketball game and enjoyed the game.

Al Howland thinks we should have a conversation with the public on what we are trying to achieve academically. Wants to get beyond people not understanding what we are doing.

Michael Williams would feel better if he had some comparable information on prices for the new middle school that was closer to our building. Treasurers report is not useful to him. He would like to at least see the cash balance of the sweep account.

Tom Newkirk commented on the girls' hockey team, currently undefeated. The presentation last night by the middle school staff was great.

VI. DISTRICT REPORTS:

A. Assistant Superintendent/Curriculum and Instruction Report:

Todd Allen stated that we have lost 22 hours of instructional time. We do have 5 days built into the calendar. Sabbatical committee met this week. He will give the Board a memo before the February 20th meeting. We received some great proposals.

B. Superintendent's Report:

Superintendent Morse stated that he approved a Request for an overnight trip from Sean Kelley.

We received a donation from Friends of PerfORMance in the Arts for the music programs in the elementary schools and the middle school.

Architect will be here at the next meeting to give an update. Dr. Morse showed the poster of the propose middle school with a ghost of the current building. Next time Ron will bring a 3D model of the property. Additional borings will be done after the budget passes. Ron would like direction from the Board on keeping the gym or not. If we leave it, we may not be able to get a full-size soccer field on the property. The committee will be meeting every week now. We did get the traffic study back. Will need to sit with the planning board and other committees. Dan asked what standard they are planning to use for the geothermal system. This is a factor for the placement of the pumps. Michael asked what the goal is for the size of the field on the property. He also asked what type of construction is needed to preserve the gym section of the building. It would be helpful to know what the gross numbers are for classroom space, the gym and library.

Dr Morse had a conversation with Durham about collaborative agreement between the police department. He has not heard from the other towns.

C. Business Administrator:

Sue Caswell presented the budget update for January. All accounts are in good shape at this time. The bulk of the savings is in the teacher salaries account line.

Creation of Engineering Scholarship:

Denise Day made a motion to approve the creation of the Engineering Scholarship, 2nd by Al Howland. Vote 6-0

D. Student Senate Report: None

E. Other: None

VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Tom Newkirk gave an update on the NHSBA Representative Assembly. The body was split and did not endorse the Oyster River resolution HB564. Tom would try to make contact to see what the status of this is and talk to other districts to see where they stand. He would like to continue to push this issue drawing on the opinion of Gordon Graham. Denise would not be at the point of writing an editorial from the Board. Al would like to rally the other districts around us. Whatever we can do to lead the discussion. Tom feels it would be a much better situation if it was stated if guns are prohibited from school grounds. Tom will write something and bring it back to the Board. The law makes a statement about the conditions you want. Tom will continue to keep the Board informed. The issue of educational hardship was discussed. Dr. Morse explained it was a case of the State Board assuming authority where it normally does not. This is new.

VIII. ACTIONS:

A. Superintendent Action Item: None

B. Board Action Items:

Denise Day moved to approve the ORHS Maternity Leave of Absence for the 2019-20 school year 2nd by Dan Klein. Motion passed 6-0.

IX. SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE UPDATES:

Manifest Reviewed and Approved by Manifest subcommittee:

Vendor Manifest #18: \$660,464.70

Al Howland stated that the Orchard Drive committee met on Monday. Have permission from both parties. Dennis Meadows has identified possible funding sources. Ellen Snyder has mapped out the trails.

X. PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

Denise Day asked when the student representative will be leaving the Board. March 6th will be her last meeting. March 20th will be the first meeting of the new student representative.

XI. CLOSING ACTIONS:

A. Future Meeting Dates:

February 20, 2019 – Regular meeting – ORHS Library – 7:00 PM

March 6, 2019 – Regular meeting – ORHS – Library – 7:00 PM

March 12, 2019 – Voting Day

Denise Day made a motion at 8:48 PM to add a Non-public session to discuss the Superintendent's Evaluation under RSA 91-A:3(a), 2nd by Dan Klein. Upon a roll call vote the motion passed 6-0.

XII. NON-PUBLIC SESSION: RS 91-A:3 II (a)

- Superintendent Evaluation

NON-MEETING SESSION RSA 91-A:2 I (a)

- Strategy or negotiations with respect to collective bargaining – **Did not happen**

XII. ADJOURNMENT:

The School Board returned to public session and Al Howland made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:02 PM, 2nd by Dan Klein. Vote 6-0

Respectfully yours,
Susan Caswell
Business Administrator