

**Oyster River Cooperative School District
Regular Meeting
ORHS Library**

March 14, 2018

7:00 p.m.

SCHOOL BOARD: Denise Day, Brian Cisneros, Tom Newkirk, Kenny Rotner, Dan Klein, Al Howland. Not Present: Michael Williams and Student Representative H.J. Wilson

ADMINISTRATORS: Sue Caswell, Todd Allen, Superintendent Morse, Suzanne Filippone, David Goldsmith, Jay Richard, and Josh Olstad

There were 2 members of the public present.

I. CALL TO ORDER: By Tom Newkirk at 7:00 p.m.

Tom Newkirk would like to postpone the homework workshop until April 11th due to the inclement weather not allow enough time for collection of data.

Tom Newkirk also detailed that Dan Klein and himself have completed their six months on the Manifest Committee. Tom Newkirk moved that Denise Day and Brian Cisneros serve the next six months on the Manifest Committee with Kenny Rotner as the alternative, 2nd by Al Howland. Motion passed 6-0.

APPROVAL OF MANIFESTS:

Vendor Manifest #18: \$35,067.04

Payroll Manifest #17: \$1,299,728.31

Payroll Manifest #18: \$86,023.55

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Al Howland moved to approve the agenda, 2nd by Denise Day. Motion passed 6-0.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion to approve 2/21/18 Regular Meeting Minutes:

Denise Day moved to approve the February 21, 2018 minutes, 2nd by Brian Cisneros.

Revisions: Page 4 paragraph 5 insert: The cell phone survey was meant to be a first step in the process.

Page 6 Paragraph 3: Denise Day asked for an examination for an alternative to a two-hour delay.

Motion passed 6-0.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS, COMMENDATIONS and COMMENTS:

A. District: Suzanne Filippone, High School Principal, announced that Noah Strout won the meet of champions (which is with all divisions) at the 145 lb. weight class. He went on to the New England's and came in second and is now qualified to go to the nationals in Virginia Beach March 23-25th. Noah Strout went to the states and won his weight class and won 2nd in the states which qualifies him for the nationals.

Three students from SALT (Student Athletic Leadership Team) will be going to the state-wide leadership conference at Mt. Washington Hotel. The students are Devin McLain, Joe Morrell, Madde Alfonse. Nichole Casimiro will be their chaperone.

The Boys Varsity Basketball Team is headed to the state championship game on Saturday at 3:00.

The unified basketball team had a quarter final basketball game today.

The students at the high school had planned a walk out today, but it was rescheduled to April 20th

The Counselors are meeting with students grades 9-11 about their plans and to personalize their education while at the high school.

Jay Richard of the Middle School announced that there were close to 30 students recognized for the scholastic writing awards. The robotics team has moved from the state championship and will be headed to the nationals in Kentucky.

They had three students participate today in a walk out and it was very positive.

Carrie Vaich and David Goldsmith, Mast Way and Moharimet Principal, announced that the week before and after February break they scheduled Read Across America. They had guest readers and many NH athletes came to read. The UNH interns presented a great skit on a book they had read. The schools are collaborating on Science Fridays, wonderful hands on activities. They are also planning other opportunities in the spring. Tomorrow night there will be a joint PTO meeting at Moharimet School on internet safety. They will be having

the book fair at the end of the month. Moharimet had their pot luck evening that represented their culture, and a student art show. They also had their annual penny day to raise money for the rebuilding of Puerto Rico. They have started a chess club on Mondays after school with over 30 students. Both schools are in the middle of kindergarten registration.

David Goldsmith reported that the move of the modular at Moharimet went extremely smooth and thanked everyone involved for all their hard work.

B. Board:

Al Howland announced that the Durham Department of Public Works has openings for the summer and will be open to Oyster River High School Seniors.

Denise Day mentioned that next Wednesday will be a community dinner and a wellness fair. It will be an informative and enjoyable evening.

Tom Newkirk announced that the Girls Hockey made the semi-finals this year. It is a real achievement. Last week he went to Concord to speak against Senate Bill 193. Essentially, 6% of their population is affected by this. However, it could have quite an effect on urban schools.

Kenny Rotner praised the accomplishments and activities in the District and recognized the three students who walked out of the middle school and the high school students who will be in doing so in April. These students are amazing, and they are to be admired.

VI. DISTRICT REPORTS:

A. Assistant Superintendent Curriculum and Instruction Report:

Todd Allen discussed the standardized testing SAS Standardized Assessment System. It is a shorter test that takes less time and it is broken into components that are computer adaptive. There is a math, reading and writing test. Grades 3-8. Grades 5 and 8 are also doing a science assessment. The high school does SATs as their assessment. We are in the final stages of preparing the Reach Catalog for the summer program and it should be available later this month.

B. Superintendent's Report: Superintendent Morse recognized the custodial staff, maintenance staff and the food service staff for their great work during voting yesterday. He also thanked the community that came out to vote despite the storm.

Correspondence on the waiver:

Superintendent Morse has drafted a waiver request to the Commission at NH Department of Education for lost instructional days of October 30, 2017 and October 31, 2017. Todd Allen reported that we are well within the school hours for the end of the school year.

Superintendent Morse mentioned that the conversation has begun on an alternative site beside the high school for voting.

C. Business Administrator: None

D. Student Senate Report: None

E. Sustainability Report: Maggie Morrison and Jacqueline Bruhn

How can we reduce the amount of single use plastic water bottles sold by the District? They are recommending to no longer sell single use plastic water bottles at Mast Way and Moharimet Schools as a first step in a multi-year effort to reduce the number of these bottle sold by the school district.

The sale of single use plastic water bottles across the district result in \$35K profit annually in the School Nutrition budget. Currently, the elementary schools raise \$5K in revenue from water bottle sales. Tom Newkirk mentioned that there will need to be a discussion on how to compensate the food service budget to cover the loss of revenue. The food service budget made \$18K last year and the 5K should be covered in that budget. Kenny Rotner brought up the social subject of selling water bottles where the District wants to make revenue? Kenny is supporting the moves to make our schools sustainable. Sometimes decisions need to be made that are not popular but are the right decisions.

Kenny Rotner moved in recognition of Earth Day in April, the School Board moves to end the selling of plastic water bottles at Moharimet and Mast Way, 2nd by Brian Cisneros. Motion passed 6-0.

Should the district purchase propane or Compressed natural gas buses as part of the bus replacement process? The Sustainability Advisory Committee recommends against the purchase of propane or CNG buses.

Superintendent Morse commended the Sustainability Advisory Committee on dialoguing with the board. They want to be a resource.

VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS

E-Rate: Josh Olstad discussed the RFP/RFQ E-rate Category 2 Products for battery backups. This battery keeps things running until power can be restored. This will be district wide. There was only one bidder of \$24,988.75 by Optiv Security. The contract was awarded on March 7th and the projected date of completion will be August 1st.

Denise Day moved to approve the RFP as presented for \$24,988.75, 2nd by Brian Cisneros. Motion passed 6-0.

Middle School Results on Competencies Survey:

Jay Richard spoke about the survey. He has sent the survey twice and received 51 responses. He asked to please encourage any parents with questions or concerns to speak with him. If parents have any questions on their child, he encourages them to come meet with the teachers. This is a growth process, but the response from the staff has been very positive. He did note that there were responses from parents that would like to go back to the previous grading system.

Al Howland noted that “progressing” and “exceeds” are going to have an educational element with parents and they had anticipated this before the rollout. Tom Newkirk feels it is important for parents to know their child’s area of strength, area of concern and area of progression. It is a lot of weight put on the narrative to put these ratings in context.

Kenny Rotner feels that this study did not connect with the parents of these district if there were only 51 responses. He feels that we have not made the case to the parents on how to approach it, how to work with their children, and how to work with the schools moving forward with it.

Brian Cisneros asked if you can tell how many parents are using the program and the frequency? Jay replied that they remind parents when reports are coming out and to check it. He is guessing that maybe 50-60% of parents are using it.

School Board Self-Evaluation:

By Board Policy the Board shall reflect on the degree to which its goals and objectives have been accomplished. The board shall address those areas as outlined in state laws and ORCSD established board goals.

Tom Newkirk thinks that by setting the Board goals earlier in the year has been a good decision for the Board.

Al Howland feels that we were coming off a difficult year. The diversity discussion, the football discussion, and the modular were all situations that arose that the Board dealt with. He feels that we are going to have to be time management sensitive towards our goals.

Kenny Rotner feels that we were effective in formulating board goals and that it was a good process. The budget was challenging, and our goals have not been reached.

Denise Day feels that maybe going forward to give a time frame on when we will be dealing with issues. This way we can prioritize issues and let the community know that we hear them.

Dan Klein feels that the Board needs to allow some time to deal with the unanticipated. He feels that we need to do a better job of getting into a routine of reviewing where we are on our goals.

Tom Newkirk asked if we are using the full year effectively? It felt like there wasn't enough time to deal with all the issues we needed to. The in-depth work with Siemens helped to lay out the facilities moving forward.

Superintendent Morse is pleased where they are regarding the Strategic Plan as well as the Middle School. Siemens has done extremely well.

VIII. ACTIONS:

A. Superintendent Actions: None

B. Board Action Items:

Motion to approve replacement ORHS Boys' Soccer Coach: Brian Cisneros moved to approve the replacement ORHS Boys' Soccer Coach, 2nd by Dan Klein. Motion passed 6-0.

IX. SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE UPDATES:

Denise Day mentioned that the Policy Committee met today. They are gathering information from the survey. At the next meeting will be discussion about where the board wants to go. They had 800 survey responses. They need to determine the parameters the Board's wishes.

Kenny Rotner discussed that they are working on the School Lunch Policy for the Board's review. They also discussed establishing a living memorial in some way that adds to the District as a whole.

Tom Newkirk reported that the Middle School Facilities Committee met and reviewed the possibilities of alternative sites in the District. They are on track to come before the Board with viable possibilities for further review.

X. PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

XI. CLOSING ACTIONS:

**A. Future Meeting Dates: 3/21 Regular Meeting - ORHS Library 7:00 p.m.
4/04 Regular Meeting - ORHS Library 7:00 p.m.**

XII. NONPUBLIC SESSION RSA 91-A:3 II (a)

- Superintendent Evaluation

NON-MEETING SESSION: RSA 91-A2 (if needed)

Kenny Rotner moved to enter into nonpublic session under RSA:91-A:3II(a) at 8:55 p.m., 2nd by Denise Day. Upon roll call vote, the motion passed 6-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Laura Grasso Dobson
Recording Secretary