

Oyster River Cooperative School District  
REGULAR MEETING

September 6, 2023

ORMS – Recital Hall

7:00 PM

- O. 6:30 PM - MANIFEST REVIEW/APPROVAL AT EACH SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
- I. CALL TO ORDER 7:00 PM
- II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
- III. PUBLIC COMMENTS (*Total allotted time for public comment is 30 minutes*)
- IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES *Motion to approve 08/02/23 and 08/16/23 Regular Meeting Minutes.*
- V. ANNOUNCEMENTS, COMMENDATIONS AND COMMENTS
  - A. District
  - B. Board
- VI. DISTRICT REPORTS
  - A. Assistant Superintendent/Curriculum & Instruction Report(s)
  - B. Superintendent’s Report
    - Opening Day Enrollment
    - Staffing Update
  - C. Business Administrator
    - DOE25/MS25 Signature Authorization. *Motion for the Board to sign the DOE25 and MS25.*
    - Adequacy Funding Update.
  - D. Student Representative {Maeve Hickok}
  - E. Finance Committee Report
  - F. Superintendent Search Committee
  - G. Other:
- VII. UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGENDA *{Requires unanimous approval. Individual items may be removed by any Board Member for separate discussion and vote}*
  - ORMS Maternity Leave of Absence from February 1, 2024, through the end of the school year. *Motion to approve ORMS Maternity Leave of Absence from February 1, 2024, to the end of the school year.*
- VIII. DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS
  - Communication Update
  - Determine School Board Members who will present at the NHSAA meeting in October.
  - Discussion on School Board Goals for the 2023-24 school year.
- IX. SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE UPDATES
- X. PUBLIC COMMENTS (*Total allotted time for public comment is 30 minutes*)
- XI. CLOSING ACTIONS
  - A. Future meeting dates: September 20, 2023 – Regular School Board Meeting @ 7:00 PM MS Recital Hall  
October 4, 2023 – Regular School Board Meeting @ 7:00 PM MS Recital Hall  
October 18, 2023 – Regular School Board Meeting @ 7:00 PM Mast Way Cafeteria  
October 26, 2023 – Board Budget Workshop @ 8:00 AM – Durham Council Office
- XII. NON-PUBLIC SESSION: RSA 91-A:3 II {If Needed}  
NON-MEETING SESSION: RSA 91-A2 I (a)
  - Strategy or negotiations with respect to collective bargaining.
- XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully submitted,  
Superintendent

The School Board reserves the right to take action on any item on the agenda.

**Oyster River Cooperative School District  
SAU #5**

Welcome to the School Board meeting. If you wish to be heard by the Board, please note “Public Comment” at the beginning of the agenda (reverse side). During the comment section of the agenda each speaker may have up to three (3) minutes within the time frame allowed. Board Chair may limit time allotment as deemed necessary. Occasionally, the Board may “suspend its rules” to allow visitor participation at the time an issue of specific interest is being addressed. A speaker will not be recognized for a second time on a particular topic.

Visitors should not expect a Board response to their comments or questions under the above since the Board may not have discussed or taken a position on the matter. The Superintendent, without speaking for the Board, may offer clarification as appropriate.

Agendas and background information are available on the district website prior to meetings. Agendas and additional information are generally available at the entrance to the meeting room or distributed at the time the item is introduced for discussion.

The ORCSD School Board will meet in regular session on the first and third Wednesdays of the month with additional meetings when necessary. The School Board appreciates your attendance at these meetings and invites your continued interest in its work on behalf of the children and residents of the District.

**Oyster River Cooperative School District Members:**

- |                             |                            |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| • Denise Day, Chairperson   | Term on Board: 2023 – 2026 |
| • Matthew Bacon, Vice Chair | Term on Board: 2022 - 2025 |
| • Brian Cisneros            | Term on Board: 2021 –2024  |
| • Daniel Klein              | Term on Board: 2021 - 2024 |
| • Thomas Newkirk            | Term on Board: 2023 - 2024 |
| • Heather Smith             | Term on Board: 2022– 2025  |
| • Giana Gelsey              | Term on Board: 2023 - 2026 |

**Information Regarding Nonpublic Session**

On occasion, the Board agenda may include (or be adjusted to include) a Nonpublic Session. When a motion is made to do so, it will be done under the provisions of the NH State Law RSA 91-A:3 II, and one or more of the following reasons will be claimed for entering Nonpublic Session:

- The dismissal, promotion or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him, unless the employee affected (1) has a right to a meeting and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request will be granted.
- The hiring of any person as a public employee.
- Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the public body itself, unless such person requests an open meeting.
- Consideration of the acquisition, sale or lease of real property or personal property which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties whose interests are adverse to those of the general community.
- Consideration or negotiation of pending claims or litigation which has been threatened in writing or filed against the body or agency of any sub-division thereof, or against any member thereof because of his membership in such body or agency, until the claim or litigation has been fully adjudicated or otherwise settled.

# Oyster River Cooperative School Board

## Regular Meeting Minutes

**August 2, 2023**

**DRAFT**

**SCHOOL BOARD PRESENT:** Denise Day, Brian Cisneros, Dan Klein, Heather Smith, Matt Bacon, Tom Newkirk, Giana Gelsey

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE:**

**ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:** Dr. Morse, Suzanne Filippone, Amy Ransom, Rebecca Noe, Bill Sullivan, Alida Carter, Misty Lowe

**STAFF PRESENT:**

**GUEST PRESENT:**

**ABSENT:**

**I. CALLED TO ORDER at 7:00 PM by Chair Denise Day.**

**II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Giana Gelsey made a motion to approve the agenda as written, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tom Newkirk. Motion passed 7-0.**

**III. PUBLIC COMMENTS – None provided.**

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Heather Smith made a motion to approve the July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes, 2<sup>nd</sup> Matt Bacon.**

Heather Smith made the following revision:

On page 1, under the second paragraph of Giana Gelsey's revision, change the word "brining" to "bringing" in item #3.

**Motion passed with correction 7-0.**

**V. ANNOUNCEMENTS, COMMENDATIONS AND COMMENTS**

**A. District**

Principal Misty Lowe of Mast Way informed the Board that summer workshops and planning are going well. Also, the following building projects are on track for completion this month: a new shed, repairs to the parking lot, replacement of air handlers, and the renovation of a cafeteria wall. She let families know that student registration is underway and if there are any questions, they should call the school's front office. In a few weeks, teachers will send home personalized letters introducing themselves. New family tours will be held on Monday, August 21<sup>st</sup> from 9:00-9:30 and 1:00-1:30 and on Wednesday, August 21<sup>st</sup> from 2:00-2:30 and 5:00-5:30. A meet and greet opportunity for students to meet their teachers and see their classrooms will be advertised soon, as well as a PTO networking event for families.

Principal Rebecca Noe of ORHS announced that orchestra teacher Andrea von Oeyen is a semi-finalist for Teacher of the Year. Counselors will be back in the building starting August 21<sup>st</sup> and they will be available by appointment to discuss class schedules and answer questions.

Please note the following dates for August:

11<sup>th</sup> – Football practice begins.

14<sup>th</sup> – All other sports' practices begin.

16<sup>th</sup> – "Career/College Planning 101" for students applying to jobs/colleges. Students can attend one or both sessions from 8-11am or 12-3pm. Registration with a school email is required, see district website.

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17<sup>th</sup> – “Welcome to High School” info session for students and parents from 1-3pm or 5-7pm.

25<sup>th</sup> – “Freshmen Orientation/Field Day” from 11:30-3:00pm.

30<sup>th</sup> – First day of school.

Interim Principal Bill Sullivan introduced Interim Assistant Principal Alida Carter of ORMS. He announced that the summer ESY and R.E.A.C.H. programs held at the middle school will be ending tomorrow, and the building will be cleaned and ready for the first day of school. A New Family Orientation event will be held the morning of August 24<sup>th</sup> with more details to follow. New bleachers and a retaining wall by the turf field are under construction and should be completed for early September. A considerable amount of ledge has slowed the project down.

**B. Board** – None provided.

## **VI. DISTRICT REPORTS**

### **A. Assistant Superintendent/Curriculum & Instruction Report(s)**

Suzanne Filippone announced that the online student registration window is now open for parents/guardians, and it needs to be completed by August 16<sup>th</sup>. Families should reach out to the school the child will be attending if they need assistance or have any questions. Teacher placement letters will be sent out this Friday or early next week since technical issues have stalled the process.

Heather Smith shared her appreciation for the new email format for parent communication and felt the registration process was fast and painless. Handbooks are available to read electronically by a link in the registration page, and the Board encouraged parents to review them.

### **B. Superintendent’s Report**

#### Enrollment Update/Staff Update

Dr. Morse announced that the district enrollment numbers are stable, and he has no great concerns. Regarding the elementary schools, kindergarten numbers crept up at Mast Way and Moharimet is at maximum. The 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade numbers are on the edge of class size policy, so he will be monitoring these grades as we approach the start of school. The middle and high school are in great shape for class size. Overall, enrollment is in a good place and there is no need for action at this time.

Regarding staffing, Dr. Morse stated that the district is struggling to fill paraprofessional and bus driving roles, which has been a longstanding issue. Due to greater technology interests, a middle school course has been altered to be a more hands-on technology class versus a hands-on building class, and this has altered the teaching role. This type of re-envisioning could occur at the high school in the coming years. The district may contract out for the one-year Spanish position at the middle school. Dr. Morse stated that the job market has had an impact on new hires, resulting in employing three novice teachers for the upcoming school year. He said administration will be making sure the new teachers have the supports necessary to be successful. He cautioned the Board of similar hiring concerns as they move forward in the current job market.

Denise Day wondered if freshmen have the option to take an intro level woodworking class through the CTE program. Suzanne explained that the CTE programs are not offered to freshmen, nor are they designed as intro level exploratory classes. Since most are 2–3-year programs, CTEs begin during the sophomore or junior year. Dr. Morse stated that they could reach out and see if a host school would be interested in offering an intro woodworking class should it no longer be offered at the high school.

With increasing numbers in tuition students, Dr. Morse said the size and space of the middle school could make it marketable as a charter or private school. He encouraged the Board to consider this moving forward.

**C. Business Administrator** – None provided.

**D. Student Representative Report** – None provided.

**E. Finance Committee Report** –First meeting for the upcoming school year will be August 30<sup>th</sup>.

**F. Superintendent Search Committee**

Review Superintendent Search Advertisement

Heather Smith provided a draft advertisement for the hire of a new Superintendent. Giana Gelsey felt that stating the district has a DEIJ Director would be important to communicate, especially since it's a unique role. Heather said the advertisement was at its 2-page maximum and she could not fit an additional line. Dan Klein agreed with Giana that the DEIJ Director is a unique role, and he said it gives prospective candidates an idea what they will be working with. He wondered if it should replace the "School Board of the Year" achievement. Brian Cisneros said the superintendent works for the school board and the candidates would want to know if it's a good board or not. He felt the school board reputation would be more of a deciding factor for a candidate verses a DEIJ Director. Heather pointed out that a candidate would need to do background work to know details not included in the advertisement and this could be a good way of screening candidates. After further discussion, most board members voiced wanting to include the DEIJ Director on the advertisement, and Heather was able to add it by altering the formatting. Dr. Morse and several board members praised Heather's work stating the advertisement was exceptional and it truly reflected the district. Heather went over a tentative timeline for the Superintendent search.

**Tom Newkirk made a motion to approve the Superintendent Search Advertisement, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Matt Bacon. Motion passed 7-0.**

**G. Other:** None

**VII. UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGENDA – Chair Denise Day asked if any items needed to be discussed separately or if a board member had any question.**

Giana Gelsey asked if there was a metric used to determine stipends.

Dr. Morse explained that stipends are determined through the guild negotiations based on a variety of variables.

No items were pulled out of the consent agenda for approval.

- **ORMS One year Maternity Leave of Absence for the 2023-24 School Year.**
- **MOH Maternity Leave of Absence from Approximately November 20, 2023 through April 8, 2024.**
- **Nomination of ORHS Department Heads and Activity Stipends for the 2023-24 school year.**
- **Nomination of ORMS Activity Stipends for the 2023-24 school year.**
- **Nomination of Mast Way and Moharimet Elementary Schools Activity Stipends for the 2023-24 school year.**

**Denise Day made a motion to approve the unanimous consent agenda, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tom Newkirk. Motion passed 7-0.**

**VIII. DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS**

Discussion on School Board Goals for the 2023-24 school year.

Board members discussed the 2023-24 goals and timeline, with special consideration to a new Superintendent. Tom Newkirk felt a new Superintendent would need time to learn the district before drafting a strategic plan and

suggested taking out the goal. Board members agreed to remove “Strategic Plan” from the draft. The Board discussed refining “Competency Based Learning and Reporting” and adding bullet points to “Communications” to include an implementation plan for Parent Square. The Board also added “Facility Fee” and “DEIJ Board Workshop” as separate goals. A revised draft of the 2023-24 school board goals will be available at a future meeting for further discussion.

**IX. SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE UPDATES** – None provided.

**X. PUBLIC COMMENTS** – None provided.

**XI. CLOSING ACTIONS**

**A. Future Meeting Dates:** August 16, 2023 – Regular School Board Meeting @ 7:00 PM MS Recital Hall  
September 6, 2023 - Regular School Board Meeting @ 7:00 PM MS Recital Hall

**XII. NON-PUBLIC SESSION:** RSA 91-A:3 II {If Needed}

**NON-MEETING SESSION:** RSA 91-A2 I {If Needed}

**XIII. ADJOURNMENT:**

**Heather Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> Giana Gelsey. Motion passed 7-0.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Karyn Laird, Records Keeper

**The School Board reserves the right to take action on any item on the agenda.**

**Oyster River Cooperative School Board**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**

**August 16, 2023**

**DRAFT**

**SCHOOL BOARD PRESENT:** Denise Day, Brian Cisneros, Dan Klein, Heather Smith, Matt Bacon, Tom Newkirk, Giana Gelsey

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE:** Maeve Hickok

**ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:** Dr. Morse, Suzanne Filippone, Amy Ransom, Andy Lathrop, Rebecca Noe

**STAFF PRESENT:**

**GUEST PRESENT:**

**ABSENT:**

**I. CALLED TO ORDER at 7:05 PM by Chair Denise Day.**

Denise took a moment to introduce and welcome Maeve Hickok as the new student representative to the Board.

**II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Giana Gelsey made a motion to approve the agenda as written, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Heather Smith. Motion passed 7-0 with the student representative voting in the affirmative.**

**III. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Christianna Wiechert, a student living in Durham, announced a Girl Scout project she has designed to help neurodivergent students and/or students with texture sensitivities choose food from the school menu. Students can look at a texture code to help decipher whether food is spicy, sticky, or chewy, among other descriptors. Christianna spoke to the new food director, Meredith St Onge, who loves the project.

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Tom Newkirk made a motion to approve the August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes, 2<sup>nd</sup> Giana Gelsey.**

Minutes are still under review.

**Brian Cisneros made a motion to table the August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Matt Bacon. Motion passed 7-0 with the student representative voting in the affirmative.**

**V. ANNOUNCEMENTS, COMMENDATIONS AND COMMENTS**

**A. District**

Rebecca Noe of ORHS announced an increase in sports participation at the start of the school year, noting that 80 students are trying out for soccer and 30 students will be participating in football with Portsmouth. Regarding upcoming dates for August, tomorrow is the Welcome to High School session for students and parents from 1:00-3:00pm or 5:00-7:00pm, new teachers will be in the building Wed.-Fri. next week, Freshmen Orientation will take place on the 25<sup>th</sup> from 11:30-3:00pm, and the first day of school is on the 30<sup>th</sup>.

Brian Cisneros shared how exciting it is to see how much the football program has grown over the years.

**B. Board**

Tom Newkirk pointed out that the State Board of Education was considering a proposal from PragerU for a financial literacy course that would be offered in the Learn Everywhere Program. As a citizen, he wrote in opposition to it because of its minimal requirements and low level of standard.

Board members discussed taking a stand against the PragerU program as a Board. Suzanne confirmed that personal finance and economic classes are available for students at the high school. Tom and Giana volunteered to write a draft in opposition to PragerU to present at the next board meeting.

**Matt Bacon made a motion for Tom Newkirk and Giana Gelsey to write a draft against the PragerU literacy program, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Heather Smith. Motion passed 7-0 with the student representative voting in the affirmative.**

## **VI. DISTRICT REPORTS**

### **A. Assistant Superintendent/Curriculum & Instruction Report(s)**

#### Monitoring Student Growth

Suzanne Filippone presented on “Student Data: Monitoring Student Growth” with attention to updated STAR data for grades 2-8 and SAT’s for grade 11. She explained that STAR testing has been around for many years and the data is very valid. It is used as one of the ways to monitor student growth over time and it helps inform classroom instruction and student intervention. STAR tests are computer-adaptive and continually adjust questions based on the child’s previous response. They are given three times a year and the benchmarks are set by the district, which uses the 48<sup>th</sup> percentile for intervention.

Suzanne reviewed reading and math data for elementary and middle school, pointing out the COVID testing years in which students were remote, half a year in school, or in their first full year back in comparison to the most recent school year. She said any plateaus in scores are an indication of growing within the normal range, and she credited rising scores coming out of COVID to the teachers and the Board attesting to tutors. Dr. Morse agreed, stating that tutors have been an amazing tool for classroom teachers and the district is doing a great job supporting students and providing interventions. Suzanne said current trends show that growth is happening within the expected rate of growth, but there is always room for improvement and the district will continually look at ways to support students.

Brian Cisneros pointed out that the math scores from Oyster River recovered so well that they are above state average, and that speaks volumes.

Regarding the SAT’s, Suzanne explained that at OR they are digital and offered during the day. The declined dip in scores post the pandemic has slowly been rising. There has been a shift in how the scores are used by colleges since many are making them optional. Suzanne said it’s a case-by-case scenario whether students are using their scores to apply to schools. Heather Smith wondered if this affected motivation, and Dr. Morse said he hasn’t seen a dip in motivation. In fact, the state of NH requires all juniors to take the SAT’s. At ORHS the SAT scores are mostly used to drive instruction. While they are not used as a benchmark for intervention, the math and English departments look at the scores and note areas of concern. The essays are also reviewed to monitor writing progress. Starting in 2024 tests are expected to undergo changes. They will be shorter in length with shorter reading passages and more access to a calculator. SAT scores from 2017-2022 show that Oyster River is consistently higher than both the state and the nation in both Reading & Writing and Math.

Suzanne reviewed action items and goals for 2023-24, one of which included reassembling the District Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) team and refining it over the summer. Making sure tutors are trained and classroom resources are available are part of this team’s initiatives, as well as identifying how the district will monitor progress of interventions. Work will continue around emotional and behavioral support to help students sustain focus, improve executive functioning skills, and meet school wide expectations. Foundations will continue to be implemented in literacy instruction at the elementary level, and the district will be digging deeper into ELA at the middle school and high school levels to identify areas of student growth and support, as well as training for interventionists. Proactive use of flexible times, such as FLEX and BOBCAT will continue to be used in an effort to not remove students from classrooms, but rather use the schedule in a creative way.

Heather Smith was interested in looking at the State Assessment scores for Science from annual science testing. Dr. Morse explained the State tests results are not used the same way that STAR Data is used. State testing is taken more for compliance reasons than for data review.



**B. Superintendent's Report**ORHS Spectator Code of Conduct Procedure – Andy Lathrop/ORHS Students

Athletic Director Andy Lathrop spoke about the recent need to look at policy around spectators' behavior at sporting events. Seniors Delaney Nadeau and Eliza Wheeler, members of the Student Athletic Leadership Team (SALT), have been working with Andy to bridge the gap between athletes and the community. Their hope is to stop offensive behavior, such as flipping off referees and yelling at coaches, to create a more inviting environment for athletes and fans. Under Andy's leadership, they designed a "Spectator Code of Conduct" bulletin that promotes positive participation, including spirit cheering, respecting referees and coaches, and showing Bobcat pride. The messages are positively worded to encourage fun and respectful participation, and they explicitly tell spectators to not call out and/or target individuals negatively. The well designed and visually pleasing messages will be printed on large, readable banners and copies will be included in athletic programs. The "Spectator Code of Conduct" will also be distributed through district communication and building level newsletters. Andy will also coordinate the messaging with other districts, especially rivals that tend to create more passion from fans.

Andy Lathrop and the Leadership Team have also developed "Spectator and Parent Expectations" and "Penalties for Inappropriate Conduct," which will apply to all spectators. They will be signed off by parents of athletes during registration. The Board favored tying these statements into School Board policy by either developing new or existing language to give it greater weight.

Board members showed appreciation for Andy addressing these issues and complimented Delaney and Eliza for their design work. Andy confirmed that in games with anticipated high audience attention or large rivals, the Leadership Team and Officer Nicolosi will be asked to attend.

Enrollment Update

Dr. Morse let the Board know of a 19<sup>th</sup> student added to a Kindergarten classroom at Moharimet, but due to the family's proximity to the school, he and the principals did not feel it was necessary to relocate the student to Mast Way. Other than a small drop in 5<sup>th</sup> grade numbers, enrollment numbers remain as expected and look good for the start of the school year.

**C. Business Administrator** – None provided.

**D. Student Representative Report {Maeve Hickok}**

New student representative Maeve Hickok introduced herself to the Board. She has been in student government for the past three years and is a member of the Student Athlete Leadership Team. Maeve looks forward to this opportunity believing it will provide personal growth while advocating for students. The Board welcomed Maeve and they look forward to the student voice she will bring to the meetings.

**E. Finance Committee Report** –First meeting for the upcoming school year will be August 30<sup>th</sup>.

**F. Superintendent Search Committee**Focus Groups

Heather Smith presented information on focus groups and a tentative schedule for the new superintendent search. Topics of interest included a remote and in-person focus group meeting with various stakeholders, an online survey, candidate profiles, a board workshop, appointing a screening committee, and conducting interviews. The goal is an agenda item to hire a new superintendent at their December 20<sup>th</sup> 2023 meeting.

**Denise Day made a motion to approve September 27<sup>th</sup> and October 3<sup>rd</sup> for Focus Groups, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tom Newkirk. Motion passed 7-0 with the student representative voting in the affirmative.**

**G. Other:** None

**VII. UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGENDA – Chair Denise Day asked if any items needed to be discussed separately and there were no concerns.**

- **MOH Maternity Leave of Absence from Approximately September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023 through February, 2024.**
- **Facility Use Fee Schedule.**

**Denise Day made a motion to approve the unanimous consent agenda, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dan Klein. Motion passed 7-0 with the student representative in the affirmative.**

Chair Denise Day called a 5-minute recess and the student representative left for the night. The meeting resumed at 8:37 pm.

**VIII. DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS**

Discussion on School Board Goals for the 2023-24 school year.

The Board reviewed the 2023-24 school year goals. Theme 1: Superintendent Search & Transition was agreed upon. Theme 2: Curriculum, Instruction, and Competency-Based Learning, Reporting and Survey will be rewritten with a built-out timeline and brought back to the next meeting. Much of the content will coincide with the revisions provided by Giana Gelsey. Theme 3: Strategic Plan was removed. Theme 4: Facilities Use Fees and Theme 5: Communications were agreed upon.

A newly revised draft will be presented at the next school board meeting.

**IX. SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE UPDATES**

The Manifest Committee met and completed the following manifests.

Payroll Manifest # 3 Total is \$204,917.97

Vendor Manifest # 4 Total is \$1,642,808.41

Denise Day announced Matt Bacon and Giana Gelsey as the Manifest representatives.

**X. PUBLIC COMMENTS – None provided.**

**XI. CLOSING ACTIONS**

**A. Future Meeting Dates:** September 6, 2023 - Regular School Board Meeting @ 7:00 PM MS Recital Hall

**XII. NON-PUBLIC SESSION:** RSA 91-A:3 II {If Needed}

**NON-MEETING SESSION:** RSA 91-A2 I (b) {at beginning of meeting}

**XIII. ADJOURNMENT:**

**The School Board reserves the right to take action on any item on the agenda.**

**Heather Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> Tom Newkirk. Motion passed 7-0.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Karyn Laird, Records Keeper

UNOFFICIAL OPENING DAY ENROLLMENT – August 31, 2023

**TOTAL OPENING DAY ENROLLMENT – 2,100**

**Mast Way - 329**

Kindergarten - 63

1<sup>st</sup> Grade - 74

2<sup>nd</sup> Grade - 65

3<sup>rd</sup> Grade - 60

4<sup>th</sup> Grade - 67

**Moharimet - 298**

Kindergarten- 55

1<sup>st</sup> Grade – 55

2<sup>nd</sup> Grade – 68

3<sup>rd</sup> Grade – 58

4<sup>th</sup> Grade - 62

**Middle School – 620**

5<sup>th</sup> Grade – 133

6<sup>th</sup> Grade – 156

7<sup>th</sup> Grade – 168

8<sup>th</sup> Grade – 163

**High School 853**

9<sup>th</sup> Grade – 209

10<sup>th</sup> Grade – 203

11<sup>th</sup> Grade – 225

12<sup>th</sup> Grade - 216

Office of the Superintendent  
Oyster River School District  
36 Coe Drive, Durham, NH 03824

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INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

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TO: School Board  
FROM: Jim Morse, Superintendent  
Amy Ransom, Business Administrator  
DATE: August 30, 2023  
RE: Adequacy Update

Amy and I have reviewed the revised adequacy numbers from the state and, while the amounts are less than the district has received in the past the revised adequacy numbers are higher than the November 2022 estimate.

Our three member communities change in state funds from November 15, 2022, estimates.

Durham increased	\$235,716
Lee increased	\$109,909
Madbury increased	\$ 43,956
<b>Total change in estimated State Adequacy</b>	<b>\$389,580</b>

Our three member communities change in state funds from previous grant received.

Durham loses	(\$386,252)
Lee gains	\$ 11,955
Madbury loses	(\$ 83,440)
<b>Total loss of State Adequacy from FY22</b>	<b>(\$457,738)</b>



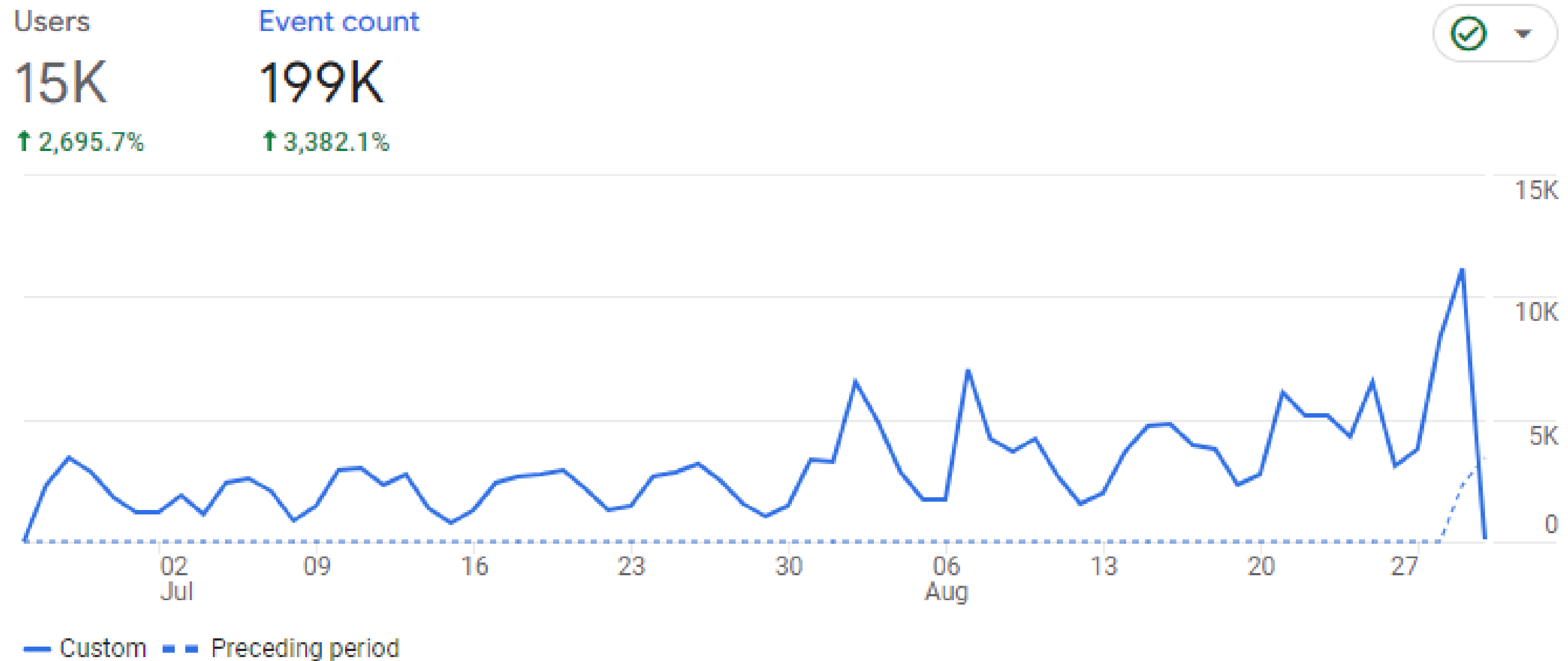
# Website & Parent Square Update

September 6, 2023

# Website

- New website launched June 29, 2023
- Training sessions over the summer :
  - Communications specialist
  - Director of IT
  - Digital learning specialists
  - About half current and future web editors
- “An infinite scroll” of web changes made
  - Directory updates, new content or page, edits, etc.

# Analytics: Traffic Since Launch



As of August 30, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.

# Analytics: Top 10 Page Views

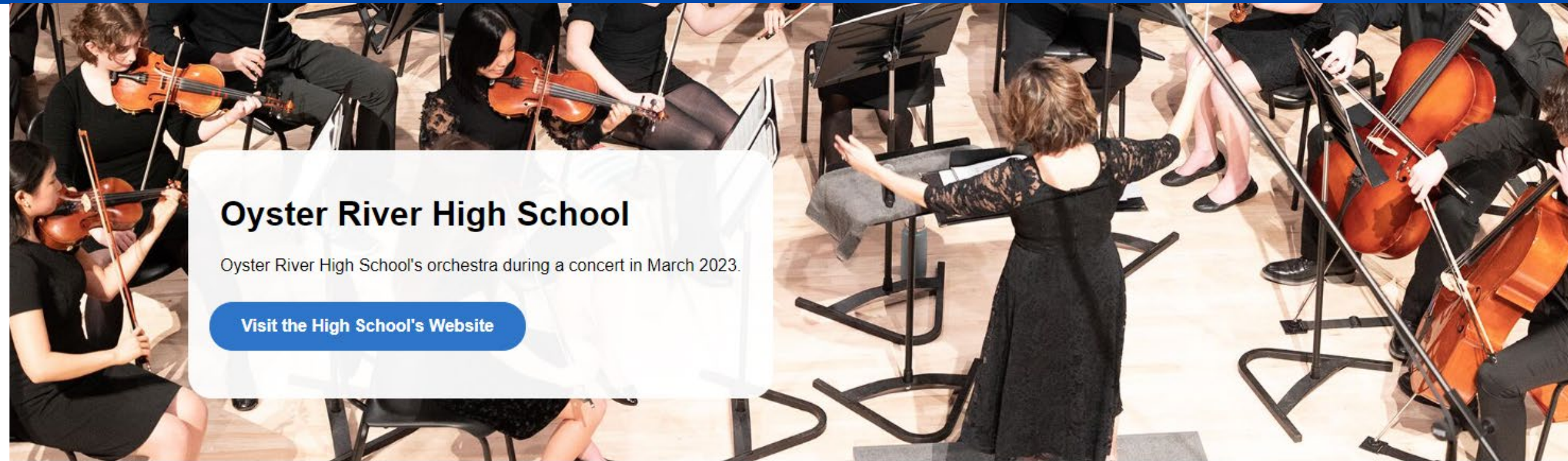
	Page path and screen class <span>▼</span> <span>+</span>	<span>↓</span> Views .....	Users .....	Views per user .....	Average engagement time .....	Event count All events <span>▼</span> .....
		<b>87,942</b> 100% of total	<b>14,845</b> 100% of total	<b>5.92</b> Avg 0%	<b>1m 35s</b> Avg 0%	<b>199,353</b> 100% of total
1	/orhs/index	14,100	3,778	3.73	0m 38s	33,182
2	/orcsd.org	10,123	4,991	2.03	0m 25s	27,708
3	/orms/index	9,316	2,390	3.90	0m 41s	21,552
4	/calendar/monthly/2023/08	2,225	1,430	1.56	0m 18s	4,965
5	/moh/index	2,020	1,039	1.94	0m 26s	5,228
6	/about/registration	2,017	1,122	1.80	0m 24s	4,901
7	/academics/powerschool	1,884	1,112	1.69	0m 13s	3,424
8	/mw/index	1,846	827	2.23	0m 35s	4,504
9	/orms/families/index	1,755	740	2.37	0m 40s	3,747
10	/about/district-directory	1,471	708	2.08	0m 59s	3,239



# Survey

On all orcsd.org homepages

- District
- All schools



## Oyster River High School

Oyster River High School's orchestra during a concert in March 2023.

[Visit the High School's Website](#)



Agendas and Minutes



Budget



Bus Routes



Lunch Menus



Registration



Strategic Plan

Website survey: we want to hear from you!

[Complete the Feedback Survey](#)

# Survey

- Added to website before 4th July weekend
- By end of July, we had received 12 responses
- Low response rate due to limited summer traffic and district/school communications over the summer

# Survey: Promotion

- August 23: asked principals to include in their 8/25 family newsletters, and again in coming weeks
- Added to the August district newsletter
- As of August 30, we had received a total 24 responses
- With back -to -school increased traffic, more people will see it online and gain more experience with the website

# Survey: Next Steps

- Survey to close September 30, 2023
- Next steps:
  - Analyze data
  - Prioritize enhancements
  - Implementation

# ParentSquare Update

September 6, 2023

# Shout-Outs

- Our crème de la crème IT team
  - Josh Olstad, Director of IT
  - Bob Strobel, IT Database Specialist
- Building administrators & Front office teams
- HS Athletics team

# Launch

- Migrated June 2023
- District and School communications to families and staff:
  - Director of IT sent an email in June
  - Included in principals' newsletters
  - Dedicated webpage on the website with FAQ and resources
  - Sent multiple district and school posts (emails) via ParentSquare
  - Next email to families:
    - District email about account registration and iOS/Android app



# Functionalities & Training

- Currently limited to mass notifications for:
  - Building Administrators/Front Office
  - SAU
  - ORHS Athletics
- Users above have received training and resources enabling them to send posts independently
  - In coming weeks: train digital learning specialists



# Coming Soon...

- More functionalities and classroom communications in 2024 -2025
  - Create a Best Practices resource
  - Training guides & templates
- Example new functionalities: forms, permission slips, sign-ups, RSVPs, polls, and social media integration
- Pilot program starting in October/November 2023
  - Enrollment in fall 2023 and spring 2024
  - Staff/Teachers/Club Managers interested will receive training and support
  - Feedback will be used to create a training program for all staff in spring 2024

Thank You!

