

Revised 12/11/17 for approval at 12/20/17 meeting

Revised 1/3/18

## Oyster River Cooperative School District

### Regular Meeting

**November 15, 2017**

**ORHS Library**

**7:00 p.m.**

**SCHOOL BOARD:** Denise Day, Brian Cisneros, Tom Newkirk, Kenny Rotner, Dan Klein, Al Howland and Michael Williams. Student Representative: Hannah Jane Wilson

**ADMINISTRATORS:** Sue Caswell, Todd Allen, Superintendent Morse, David Goldsmith, Catherine Plourde, Jim Roczyki, and Carrie Vaich

There were 35 members of the public present.

**I. CALL TO ORDER:** Tom Newkirk read a statement on the conduct of a meeting. The policy calls for all of us to be civil, to respect those who disagree with you. Affirmatively advocating for the changes you seek. It applies to all of us and hopes that moving forward we can all pledge to be civil.

#### **II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

**Revisions: To move the discussion of football above the siemens lease.**

**Kenny Rotner requested a special announcement after approval of agenda.**

**Al Howland moved to approve the agenda with the above revisions, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dan Klein. Motion passed 7-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.**

*Kenny Rotner made a statement:*

I'm a physician. I have been a physician in the Seacoast since 1986. I learn day by day more and more that the decisions I make in the office when I practice medicine include evaluating risk and benefit. Nothing comes as a free ride. Any medication I prescribe, any tests I order, any kind of screening that I do, there's a risk and a benefit. It's a conversation that I have with every patient. Maybe many of you knew about informed consent, and maybe before you had a surgery you had an informed consent, but really every single little thing you do you deserve informed consent, that's what the practice of medicine is about.

I've spoken at this Board table many times about Football. I believe my first meeting on the Board in March of 2013 we dealt with football. I have acknowledged repeatedly the value of the sport for the participants, for the team comradery, for the lessons about physical conditioning, to learn to operate as a union, to go beyond sometimes some pain, to work for a common good.

At our last Board meeting I expressed that same sentiment. I spoke about not wanting to support football because of my worry about CTE, about brain damage. The data has been increasing throughout the years, the science of the studies is increasing throughout the years. In all the discussions I've had about football, I would have loved to have seen a discussion about risk and benefit. I was very posed to vote in support of a cooperative when it came to our attention; I believe it was a year and three quarters

November 15, 2017

ago. When I got a sense from the parents involved that they were not addressing the issue of CTE as we talked about injuries, concussions and injuries in other sports which happen, but unique to football and boxing is CTE.

Our Board has not had a discussion about CTE. There've been very few of us on the Board who have raised that issue. Since our last meeting, we've received numerous letters to the School Board calling me on my comments, asking me to resign and I don't do social media, but people have come up to myself and my wife and asked, "well what do you think about what's going on in social media including the derogatory things said about me and actually even physical threats.

I challenge all of you to go back to that last meeting and see what I said that in any way was destructive as far as the sport of football except for CTE and I go by science. When we had a discussion about start time, we talked about science, and we talked about the risk and benefit. We talked about the science proving start time late sleep was good for kids and we talked about how that could affect our community, our parents, our students by having late start time. I would encourage this community to have a true discussion about the risks and benefits of football. I feel that I've been very wrongly quoted as saying things which I did not say and there's a line in a song I love that people aren't gonna learn what they don't want to know, and that's very true and I find that through all aspects of life, and I'm not gonna be a participant in any football discussions. I'm recusing myself from any football discussions because I don't feel we're having the discussion about what is appropriate, and emotion is here. I think we need science and emotion and without a full discussion, I can't participate, so I am recusing myself, you will not hear from me again about football.

### **APPROVAL OF MANIFESTS:**

Payroll Manifest #9: \$960,342.85

Vendor Manifest: #9: \$641,151.27

### **III. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Dean Rubine from Lee spoke about the proposed Lease Purchase Agreement with Siemens. He does not like the financing. It would encumber the District for five million dollars over ten years and would be decided by the Board not the voters. He believes this should go to the voters.

Robert Barth of Lee read a statement arguing that scientific studies have demonstrated the health risks of youth football. He urged the Board to be informed of this science and to oppose any extension of football to Oyster River High School. He apologized to anyone who took offense to his prior comments to the Board.

November 15, 2017

Michelle Nathan from Lee is a practicing physician and is a parent of a football player. The studies are scientifically flawed. In gender matched sports girls have higher concussions especially in soccer than boys. We have the ability to build this program from the ground up. Let's take advantage of this opportunity.

Kelly Doherty a football parent mentioned that female soccer players suffer the highest concussion rates of any sport. This study went over the course of five years. She has written a letter to the District in support of football.

Krista Butts of Lee spoke in favor of football. The warrant article from last year was poorly written it didn't mention anything about playing for other districts. It gives kids who want to play the opportunity to do so outside the District.

John Jones of Durham is in support of authoring the administration to form a cooperative football program to play for other teams.

Logan Flynn is a Sophomore at Oyster River. He is in support of a cooperative team with either Portsmouth or Dover. He understands that a cooperative team will not allow him to play football, but would like to see this go through so his brother would be able to play. He found that football inspired teamwork.

Hope Flynn of Madbury mentioned that Logan had a concussion when he was in the eighth grade. There were eight students who had a concussion at the same time, but they gotten the concussions from other activities. There are 111 kids that are involved in ORYA Football.

Rob McEwan of Madbury whose son James plays for ORYA. Football has made a huge difference for him. He has really enjoyed it. Rob would like to see him play football as long as he would like to.

Jennifer Jones of Durham spoke and would like to see the Board approve a discussion to explore a cooperative football agreement with either Portsmouth or Dover. Their son is a good student whose passion is football. It should be a parents' choice.

Ella McCaleb of Barrington spoke about coaching. We have a huge opportunity in front of us and she commended the ORYA coaches for all their hard work.

November 15, 2017

David Taylor of Durham and former School Board member knows that it is a very hard decision. For football the community has spoken. Last year the voters turned down football. Their job is do what the community voted for.

Tanya Carlton is the parent of two boys. As a pharmacist she has looked to the risk and the benefits. She would like the students to be able to continue playing the sport that they love in high school.

Kathy Fagen is a parent of two children in the District. She has submitted a letter to the District and thinks that CTE is connected in all sports but doesn't think they have been fully studied. There are different types of impact hits. She would be fully supportive of her son playing football. There is more in-depth training now on what to look for.

#### **IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

##### **Motion to approve 11/01/17 Regular Meeting Minutes:**

**Denise Day moved to approve the November 1<sup>st</sup> meeting minutes, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dan Klein. Revision: Page 8 delete space between paragraph. Motion passed 6-1-0 with Michael Williams abstaining.**

#### **V. ANNOUNCEMENTS, COMMENDATIONS AND COMMENTS:**

**A. District:** None

**B. Board:** Denise Day commended the Mouth of the River staff for a great issue and to let the community know that it is available for subscription.

Michael Williams welcomes the input from the community. He appreciates all the work that went into the Diversity Forum. Michael also commended a job well done on the Oyster River Podcast.

Brian Cisneros wanted to thank the Student Representative for inviting them to the Senate and it was a good opportunity to meet with them. He hopes that they can continue to do it again in the future.

#### **VI. DISTRICT REPORTS**

**A. Assistant Superintendent/Curriculum & Instruction:** None

November 15, 2017

**B. Superintendent's Report:** Superintendent Morse informally announced that we have entered into an agreement with UNH for early college. They will be the first public high school in the state to have this option. A student will be able to take a course in the high school. The first one would be at no cost and subsequent courses while in high school will be \$800.

They will be starting in January to work on the strategic plan.

Superintendent Morse mentioned David Goldsmith's November's Newsletter on Diversity. He had conversations regarding "Waking up White". He is meeting with a group of parents who are interested in doing a policy addendum regarding race.

**C. Business Administrator: Tuition Rates:**

Sue Caswell detailed that the FY2018 Durham/UNH and ORCSD Staff tuition rate is used as the basis upon which the Town of Durham seeks a "payment in lieu of taxes" from the University of New Hampshire for those children residing in UNH's family housing facility (Forest Park) and as the rate charged at 1/3 to those staff that reside outside the District and have children attending ORCSD schools.

This rate has been calculated by using the estimated cost per pupil for the current fiscal year. The estimated cost per pupil for the current year uses the data from the Department of Revenue's MS-22 form (appropriations voted) and the current year's October 1 enrollments. The calculation set up is as follows:

FY2018 approved appropriations  
Less Food Service Expenditures  
Less Transportation Expenditures

Divided by October 1 Enrollment

**Using this method, our estimated cost per pupil resultant numbers are as follows:**

**Elementary: \$18,677**

**Middle School: \$17,653**

**High School: \$18,500**

November 15, 2017

**Denise Day moved to approve the tuition rates as presented, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Al Howland. Motion passed 7-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.**

**D. Student Senate Report:** The Student Representative reported that the Student Senate met with the School Board and it was a productive discussion. They were able to give a different perspective of all grade levels and that was beneficial to hear about. The Senate has had a chance to see the schedule that has been proposed it was nice to talk to the people who designed it. Tomorrow is the winter sports presentation at the high school.

**E. Other:** None

## **VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

**Football Cooperative:** Dan Klein really appreciates the public input especially when students come and give their perspective. The next logical step for the Board is to look further into the cooperative.

**Dan Klein moved that: The Board instructs the Administration to investigate and report back on the following questions related to any potential ORCSD football cooperative:**

**What implied or expressed obligations would this agreement create for future ORCSD Boards?**

**Would there be costs to the District and parents?**

**What impact would the cooperative have on Title IX compliance?**

**What impact would the cooperative have on other ORCSD programs?**

**What issues related to liability would the cooperative create?**

**Besides Portsmouth and Dover are other Districts interested in a cooperative?**

**To investigate and report back and, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Brian Cisneros.**

Al Howland looks forward to making this a fair process for the community. Every time this comes up it divides the community. He has struggled on how to make this a fair process. He thinks that there will need to be another Warrant Article. The community needs to be fully informed. Brian Cisneros see this as an opportunity and we won't know what is involved until proposed agreements come forward.

November 15, 2017

Andrew Lathrop, the Athletic Director, feels that Portsmouth and Dover could have proposed agreement in time for the first meeting in January.

**The Motion passed 6-0-1 with Kenny Rotner abstaining and the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.**

**Siemens Lease:**

Jim Roczyki reviewed with the Board three proposed options:

Option 1: \$7,245,989

10 year \$905,748

15 year \$603,832

20 year \$452,874

Option 1a: \$4,838,601

10 year: \$604,825

15 year: \$403,216

20 year: \$302,412

Option 1b: \$3,740,041

10 year: \$467,506

15 year: \$311,671

20 year: \$233,752

Denise Day mentioned having a public hearing at the beginning of the next Board meeting and possibly having a vote at that meeting. She is uncomfortable with Option 1 because that is a lot of money tied up over years.

The Board discussed the three possible proposals. Michael Williams would like to see energy savings and rebate per line item.

**VIII. ACTIONS:**

**A. Superintendent Actions:** None

**B. Board Action Items:**

**Coaches and Volunteers:**

**High School/Middle School Volunteer Positions:**

**Paul Franz**

**Martial Arts Club**

November 15, 2017

<b>Paul Bamford</b>	<b>Boys Basketball</b>
<b>Mike Regan</b>	<b>Ski Team</b>
<b>Scott Reid</b>	<b>Ski Team</b>
<b>Kirsten Wilson</b>	<b>Ski Team</b>
<b>D Ellis Mueller</b>	<b>Boys Hockey</b>
<b>Leslie Gelsomini</b>	<b>Girls Hockey</b>
<b>Scott Barton</b>	<b>Girls Hockey</b>

**Paid Positions:**

<b>Craig Randall</b>	<b>Boys JV Hockey</b>	<b>\$3,523</b>
<b>Jamie Long</b>	<b>Girls Varsity Ice Hockey</b>	<b>\$5,340</b>
<b>Scott McGrath</b>	<b>Girls Indoor Track</b>	<b>\$3,594</b>
<b>Nick Ricciardi</b>	<b>Boys Indoor Track</b>	<b>\$3,969</b>
<b>William Reeves</b>	<b>Swimming</b>	<b>\$3,570</b>
<b>Lynn Santosuosso</b>	<b>Diving</b>	<b>\$2,451</b>
<b>Laura Fant</b>	<b>Girls Asst. Swimming</b>	<b>\$2,376</b>
<b>Lorne Lucas</b>	<b>Boys Varsity Basketball</b>	<b>\$5,265</b>
<b>Zach Lewis</b>	<b>Boys JV Basketball</b>	<b>\$5,265</b>
<b>Nicole Casimiro</b>	<b>Girls Varsity Basketball</b>	<b>\$5,190</b>
<b>Erin Mullenix</b>	<b>Girls JV Basketball</b>	<b>\$3,373</b>
<b>Peter Antognetti</b>	<b>Boys Reserve Basketball</b>	<b>\$2,595</b>

**Middle School Paid Positions:**

<b>Sunny Sadana</b>	<b>Boys 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Basketball</b>	<b>\$1,997</b>
<b>Dave Geschendt</b>	<b>Girls 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Basketball</b>	<b>\$1,997</b>
<b>Jason Duff</b>	<b>Boys 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Basketball</b>	<b>\$2,072</b>
<b>Nate Grove</b>	<b>Girls 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Basketball</b>	<b>\$2,372</b>

**Al Howland moved to approve the above slate of Coaching positions, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Denise Day. Motion passed 7-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.**

**Policies:**

**Policies for a First Read:**

<b>Policy AC</b>	<b>Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity</b>
<b>Policy JICK</b>	<b>Bullying/Cyberbullying</b>
<b>Policy JLCE</b>	<b>Emergency Care and First Aid</b>
<b>Policy GBCD</b>	<b>Background Investigation and Criminal Records Check</b>

November 15, 2017

**Michael Williams moved to approve the policies for a first read, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Denise Day. Motion passed 7-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.**

The Policy Committee has authorized the Superintendent to work on an addendum to a couple of policies pertaining to race.

## **IX. SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE UPDATES**

Tom Newkirk reported that the Negotiations Committee is still working on both contracts.

Superintendent Morse reported that the Middle School Facilities Committee is working hard. They are looking at options that utilize the current middle school location

They will be ranking the following Evaluation Criteria:

Building and Grounds

Meets State Minimum Size Standards

Functional Floor Plan

Capacity

Meets criteria for core space for cafeteria, gym,

Centrally located space for key support staff

Visible and central administrative offices

Outside Space

Lot capacity for building, parking, athletics, etc.

Potential for site land expansion

Potential for building expansion

Supports current and future teaching style

Building flexibility

Opportunity for sustainable design

Building safety/code compliance

Safe recess area

Traffic Flow

Environmental impact

Available Utilities

Proximity to high school

Community Attachment

*Revised 12/11/17 for approval at 12/20/17 meeting*

*Revised 1/3/18*

Page 10

DRAFT

November 15, 2017

Neighborhood Setting

Neighborhood Safety

Distractions

Operation and Maintenance Costs

Administrative and Costs

Transportation Costs

Construction Time

Construction Disruption

**X. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

**XI. CLOSING ACTIONS**

**A. Future Meeting Dates:** 11/29/17 Board Manifest Meeting and Budget Workshop ORHS Library 7:00 p.m.

12/6/17: Regular Meeting ORHS Library

**XII. NON-PUBLIC SESSION: RSA91-A:3 II (a)**

**Denise Day moved to enter into non-public session at 8:45 p.m. under RSA-91A:3 II (a), 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dan Klein and under roll call vote the motion passed 7-0.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura Grasso Dobson

Recording Secretary