

Oyster River Cooperative School District

Regular Meeting

January 8, 2020

ORHS - Library

DRAFT

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

Student Representative: Absent

ADMINISTRATORS: James Morse, Todd Allen, Sue Caswell, Jim Rozycki, Suzanne Filippone

There were 2 members of the public present.

I. CALL TO ORDER at 7:00 PM by Tom Newkirk

6:30-7:00 Manifest Review

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Denise Day moved to approve the agenda as presented, 2nd by Brian Cisneros. Motion passed 6-0.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Anita Mathur and Deborah Savage-Rearick Curran, both members of the ORAA Alumni Association Board of Directors read the statement below in favor of the proposed middle school:

The Oyster River Alumni Association (ORAA) is a non-profit organization that supports alumni and current students of the Oyster River Cooperative School District. Our mission is to strengthen the Oyster River community by facilitating alumni networking and communications, providing funds to support current Oyster River students, and increasing awareness of current Oyster River issues.

The ORAA Board of Directors is strongly in favor of constructing a new Oyster River Middle School building and has voted unanimously to endorse the passage of the proposed ORMS bond that will be on the March 10, 2020 election ballot as Warrant Article #3. While the ORAA Board of Directors certainly does not claim to speak for all ORHS alumni on this matter, we feel that the increasingly substandard condition and layout of the current middle school building is not conducive to 21st century learning. The ORAA Board feels that a new ORMS building is the best option to support the needs of the current and future generations of Oyster River students. We urge the Oyster River community to vote "Yes" on Warrant Article #3 in the March 10, 2020 election. Thank you. ORAA Board of Directors

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion to approve 12/18/19 regular meeting minutes:

Revisions:

Denise Day had a minor adjustment on page 3 under Section VI. (B) Superintendent Report, fourth paragraph last line change "Riverbend" to "Riverwoods" and on page 4 under 2020-21 Budget, third paragraph at the end of the third line add: "She stated that she is concerned that if the bond does not pass, that any cuts will present more of a problem in 2021-2022's budget, assuming the Board will try again to pass a bond and cost will increase."

Denise Day moved to approve the 12/18/19 meeting minutes as amended, 2nd by Brian Cisneros. Motion passed 6-0.

Motion to approve 12/18/19 Non-public meeting minutes:

Revisions: None

Denise Day moved to approve the 12/18/19 non-public meeting minutes as written, 2nd by Dan Klein. Motion passed 6-0.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS, COMMENDATIONS AND COMMENTS:

A. District: None

B. Board: None

VI. DISTRICT REPORTS:

A. Assistant Superintendent Reports:

Todd Allen reminded the Board of the upcoming Sabbatical deadline and mentioned that Kenny Rotner was the representative from the Board on the Sabbatical Committee in the past. They can wait until the next meeting to determine a Board representative for this committee.

B. Superintendent's Report:

Jim informed the Board that they had their first home meeting of 2020 on the proposed middle school. There was 12 people in attendance, 10 of which were seniors and the information was very well received.

C. Business Administrator: None

D. Student Senate Report: None

E. Other: - None

VII. DISCUSSION ITEM:

FY21 Proposed Budget

Tom asked if Jim Rozycki could speak to the Board about the suggested changes to his operating budget in response to the proposals suggested by Michael Williams at the last board meeting.

Tom then went on to explain the various options that were included in the back up and made a brief explanation of each.

Jim Rozycki explained to the Board the changes that he and the administrators proposed in response to Michael William's proposal. Jim referred to the 3.5% Budget Alternative Proposal sheet that was included in the packet.

Increasing furnishing and fixtures: Jim cut \$50,000 from this account. The high school cafeteria furniture can wait until another year.

Increase energy spend 11.6% over 2 years instead of 17%: looking at this proposal we are willing to cut this by \$10,000, but we are being conservative with taking only a small amount and we can justify this change due to our propane usage and costs have been down in the last couple of years.

Add planning for MW and MOH HVAC: with the advancement of technology we are comfortable with stalling this for future budget discussions.

Add A/C for HS Cafeteria: we have never had A/C in the high school cafeteria and we will remove and address in future year budget discussions.

Defer grandstand construction: we agree with removing this and pursuing in future year budget discussions.

Defer HS gym sand/paint: we will still complete this project but will use the funds from the operating budget that was put in for painting the Mast Way and Moharimet gym floor.

The Board asked a few clarifying questions that were answered by Jim Rozycki.

The Board discussed various scenarios for the proposed options. There was still concern for cuts of buses and the grandstands. It will be tough decision for voters with both the bond and the budget totaling \$100 million. We need to go to the voters with a clear justification.

Michael Williams appreciated the Board having a discussion as a result of his proposal from the last meeting. Tom thanked Michael for having the Board rethink their options.

Tom stated that he had the sense that the renumbered option 5 with a total budget reduction of \$265,000 was on the table and asked for a motion.

Brian Cisneros made a motion that the new renumbered Option 5 with a budget reduction of \$265,000 be adopted, seconded by Dan Klein. Vote 5-1 with Denise Day voting against.

2020 Warrant Article

Sue explained that she will revise the warrant article to reflect the new numbers voted on. We will strike the current Article 4 as it is not needed and revise to reflect 3 articles.

Assign Presentation of Warrant Articles

Tom proposed the following presenters for the Distinguished Service Award and Warrant Article 3 – 5:

Denise Day – Distinguished Service Award
Warrant Article # 3 – Brian Cisneros
Warrant Article # 4 – Tom Newkirk
Warrant Article # 5 – Dan Klein

Tom Newkirk made a motion to assign presenters for the Distinguished Service Award, Warrant Article #3, Warrant Article #4, Warrant Article # 5 as presented, seconded by Brian Cisneros. Motion approved. Vote 6-0

Public Hearing Discussion:

Jim explained the process and action that will need to happen at next week’s public hearing. There were no additional questions.

VIII. ACTIONS

A. Superintendent Action Items: None

B. Board Action Items:

Brian Cisneros made a motion to approve the ORHS Maternity Leave of Absence from 5/13/20 to the End of the Year, seconded by Denise Day. Motion Approved. Vote 6-0.

**Motion to approve List of Policies for second read/adoption:
Revisions/Questions:**

Dan Klein had a questioned pertaining to Policy DFA – Investment under #3. He asked if this review was done by the Board.

Jim explained that it is done by an independent auditor, but the Board does receive a copy of the audit and the management letter. No additional questions.

Denise Day made a motion to approve the List of Policies as a slate for second read/adoption, seconded by Brian Cisneros. Motion Approved. Vote 6-0.

X. SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE UPDATES:

A. Manifests Reviewed and Approved by Manifest Committee:

Tom Newkirk and Brian Cisneros reviewed the manifests.

Payroll Manifest #13 \$1,357,759.25
Vendor Manifest #14: \$65,628.17
Vendor Manifest # 15: \$184,744.77.

Al Howland reported out the Full Wellness Committee met and that they will be redoing the sleep study and the homework study in February 2020. He also explained that the Wellness Committee has also broken down into three separate subcommittees. Mental Health/Data, Policy Committee and Staff Wellness. He explained that each subcommittee deals with a separate area of wellness for the district's benefit.

X. PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

XI. CLOSING ACTIONS:

- A. Future Meeting Dates: 1/13/20 – Durham Town Council Budget Update – 7:00PM
1/15/20 – Bond/Budget Hearing ORHS–Auditorium-7:00PM
1/20/20 – Madbury Select Board Budget Update – 7:00 PM
1/22/20 – Regular Board Meeting – ORNS Library

Al Howland made a motion to enter into nonpublic session at 7:40 PM under RSA 91 A:3 II(a), for the Superintendent Evaluation, 2nd by Michael Williams. Upon roll call vote the motion passed 6-0.

**XII. NON-PUBLIC SESSION RSA 91-A:3 II (a) – Superintendent Evaluation
NON-MEETING SESSION: RSA 91-A:2 I {If Needed}**

XIII. ADJOURNMENT:

Al Howland moved to return to public session and adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m., 2nd by Brian Cisneros. Motion passed 6-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Wendy L. DiFruscio
Executive Assistant to
Superintendent of Schools