

Oyster River Cooperative School District

Regular Meeting

January 16, 2019

High School

DRAFT

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

Student Representative: Patty Anderson

ADMINISTRATORS: Todd Allen, Sue Caswell, Suzanne Filippone, Jay Richard, David Goldsmith, Catherine Plourde, Carrie Vaich

There were twelve members of the public present.

I CALL TO ORDER:

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

7:00 – 7:45 Strategic Plan Schedule

Executive Summary/Common Academic Goal K-12

MTSS

Socio-emotional Learning Mental Health and Wellness

Competency Work

Superintendent Morse said that the current Strategic Plan ends on June 30. The new Strategic Plan process began about a year ago with focus groups to determine what they thought was important to be addressing with the school district. They took that and vetted it with the faculty and ultimately came up with the five year plan. Tonight, we are going to be working with the K-12 component.

Todd Allen gave an overview of the K-12 of multi-tiered systems of social emotional learning. They have been focusing on building a K-12 strategy in the District. K-4 adopting a social emotional program with the idea of implementing a program over the next five years. Carrie Vaich said that they have a group of teachers at both schools test driving the Open Circle Program. They are getting great feedback on this program. David Goldsmith added that they have also been testing the Devereux Students Strengths Assessment [DESSA] Screener. Jay Richard said that they are in the second year of full implementation of the advisory program. They have brought in Haven this year to do training with the students on the effects media has on students, bullying and sexual harassment and good touch/bad touch. Todd Allen added that they are working to develop this around student health issues. The Youth Risk Behavior Survey data also is a good guide on things they need to focus on. Todd Allen and Catherine Plourde also talked about the potential SEL Coordinator position and that it would be a stipend position.

Multi-Tiered Systems of Support: Academic: Todd Allen reported that they have been working with a consultant on this process to help look at the issue. They have done a lot of work on master schedules. The elementary schools will have fully implemented MTSS structures by June 2024. The Middle School team will formalize, process and define academic support process for Bobcat time. The High School has developed flex blocks. David Goldsmith detailed that they will be implementing building level goals set in 18-19 to focus on academics in the area of Math and ELA MTSS team across the K-4 spectrum. They are looking at efficiencies in the building. This will help the students get rich classroom instruction and additional resources if they are needed. Jay Richard said the MTSS team is tracking interventions. Students who don't need additional resources are also needed to be challenged during Bobcat Time. Suzanne Filippone, Principal of the High School, discussed what types of supports do we have for kids? Do we have the supports that we need to help all students? If we are lacking in areas, how do we work together as a faculty create solutions.

Competency Based Education: Todd Allen noted that competency based education has been a focused across the district. The elementary schools are working with science units. The Middle School has developed competencies in grades 6-8. The High School has developed competencies at all levels.

Elementary Level:

David Goldsmith reported that they are developing what competencies look like at the elementary level. They will learn about CBL education by writing science units with a competency focus, develop ELA/Math competencies and begin development of a CBE progress report. By June 2024, they will have articulated competences for all K-4 subject areas and CBE report card will be fully implemented.

Middle School Level:

Jay Richard talked about the student led conferences this fall. They are continuing to give staff professional development around competencies. It is a continuous process of giving teachers what they need.

High School Level:

Suzanne Filippone said they are focusing on instructional practices with the competencies. They have been diving into areas of what standard based assessments look like.

In K-12 the focus has been around advisory and recognizing the unique needs of the individuals. They have a District level of MTSS approach that look at all the pieces and the parts to make sure they are working together to meet the student needs.

Michael Williams wants to look at what the students are getting out of this at year five. They will rework the language around competency based education.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Denise Day moved to add a non-public (student issue) directly after the regular board meeting followed by a non-meeting session with respect to collective bargaining and then discussing Superintendent Evaluation in a non-public session, 2nd by Brian Cisneros. Motion passed 7-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

**Motion to approve January 2nd regular and non-meeting minutes:
Revisions:**

Page 2 Section V B add in “holiday art” before “writing”

Page 7 third line replace “store” with “story”

Denise Day moved to approve the January 2nd minutes with the above revisions, 2nd by Brian Cisneros. Motion passed 7-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS, COMMENDATIONS AND COMMENTS

A. District:

VEEP Conference Attendees Report:

Youth Climate Leaders Academy Retreat: The high school students who attended the retreat presented the Vermont Energy Education Program to the Board:

Vermont Energy Education Program ELO

Overnight Trip

Met with sustainability leaders and politicians

Discussed what works in other schools

Attended workshops on specific topics

Brainstormed a year long project to pursue as a club

Oyster River: Where we are now:
Water bottle filling stations
Local sourced fruits and vegetables
New light fixtures
Sustainability club poster
Composting

Our Focus: Plastic Waste in the Cafeteria
Eliminate spending on single use plastics in the cafeteria at Oyster River High School. This includes plastic utensils, straws, smoothie cups, water bottles, etc. These items should be replaced by more sustainable alternatives such as metal silverware.

We are looking to create a new normal with the help of students and community support.

Tom Newkirk thanked the students for their presentation and commitment to this and asked them to come back with a progress report.

B. Board:

Denise Day saw The Little Mermaid Jr. performed by the middle school and it was excellent.

Kenny Rotner announced that the filing period for the School Board at large positions is January 23-February 1 and there are 2 open at-large positions. Kenny Rotner and Tom Newkirk will both be running again for re-election for at large positions. There are a lot of things happening in the District and they are both excited to be working on them.

Michael Williams spoke about the Middle School process. He is starting to hear comments about possible uses for the current school and feels that it is important to treat them as inputs in this process.

Al Howland reviewed with the Board the presentation that he is planning for the Deliberative Session.

VI. DISTRICT REPORTS:

A. Assistant Superintendent/Curriculum and Instruction Report:

REVISED 02/11/19

Todd Allen noted that the deadline for Sabbatical applications was yesterday and they received 5 applications.

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Chris Hall Sabbatical Report: Chris talked to the Board about the Oyster River Action Research Group which is comprised of 19 teachers that represents all four schools in different subject areas. It is teacher driven and student centered.

Steps of Action Research:

Identify a problem of practice
Develop a research question
Design a plan of actions
Gather data related to the question
Analyze data; look for patterns and answers
Share results/finding with others.

Chris detailed the research questions of the 19 teachers in the group. The group meets monthly. All the questions are in the best interests of the students.

B. Superintendent's Report:

Superintendent Morse reported that the Commissioner will be visiting the district on January 31st to spend the day in the schools. The Architect met with the staff today. They are currently developing an aerial and physical concept. They are doing a transportation study.

Superintendent Morse has met with Durham and Lee regarding the budget and both towns were incredibly respectful and polite.

Superintendent Morse read the World Language Committee Charge. They will be meeting tomorrow.

World Language Committee Charge:

To investigate current research related to effective elementary world language programs, to identify the obstacles faced including how world language would fit in the schedule and to present best practice options with a preliminary report in May with a final report in September 2019 for Board consideration.

Kenny Rotner moved to approve the above World Language Committee charge, 2nd by Denise Day. Motion passed 7-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

C. Business Administrator:

Sue Caswell reported that their application to the Public-School Infrastructure Fund for the Oyster River High School secure vestibule project has been approve. The award reflects 80% of the project costs, not to exceed \$25,600.

D. Student Senate Report:

Patty Anderson reported that mid-terms are next week, and the snowball dance is the Friday of midterms.

E. Other: None

VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS: None

VIII. ACTIONS:

A. Superintendent Action Item: None

B. Board Action Items:

Kenny Rotner moved to approve:

Motion to adopt Fy20 Budget for Deliberative Session:

Motion to approve and sign Default budget

Motion to approve and sign 2019 Warrant Articles for Deliberative Session 2nd by Denise Day. Motion passed 7-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

Denise Day moved to approve and sign MS26 as presented, 2nd by Brian Cisneros. Motion passed 7-0.

IX. SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE UPDATES:

Manifest Reviewed and Approved by Manifest subcommittee;

Payroll Manifest #14: \$846,437.70

Vendor Manifest #16: \$865,128.32

Al Howland gave an update on the Orchard Drive project. Dennis Meadows, Ellen Snyder, Sue Caswell, and Kenny Rotner discussed fund raising to pay the school district for the property and to raise funds to build a bridge to go across the water. They need to have a target dollar amount. They are looking at both public and private financing.

Al Howland moved if the committee raises \$150K the school system will sell the property to the town of Durham, provided that the land will be protected in its natural state in perpetuity, 2nd by Tom Newkirk. Motion passed 7-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

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X. PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

Jay Richard reported that the middle school is hosting the first robotics tournament at the middle school on January 27th. It will be an all-day event. There will be over thirty teams from around the state attending.

XI. CLOSING ACTIONS:

A. Future Meeting Dates:

January 30th Manifest Review SAU Office 3:30 p.m.
February 4th Superintendent with Madbury Selectman Budget Update 7:00 p.m.
February 5th Deliberative Session – ORHS Auditorium 7:00 p.m.
February 6th Regular Meeting ORHS Library 7:00 p.m.

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

XII. ADJOURNMENT:

Kenny Rotner moved to enter into nonpublic for a student issue under RSA91-A:3 II c, 2nd by Brian Cisneros. Upon roll call vote the motion passed 7-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

The School Board returned to public session at 9:13 PM.

The School Board entered a non-meeting at 9:14 PM to discuss negotiations for collective bargaining and returned to public session at 9:30.

The School Board entered into nonpublic session at 9:32 p.m. to discuss the Superintendent's evaluation and returned to public session and adjourned at 10:09 PM.

Respectfully yours,
Laura Grasso Dobson
Recording Secretary