

Oyster River Cooperative School District

Regular Meeting

February 5, 2020

ORHS - Library

DRAFT

SCHOOL BOARD: Brian Cisneros, Dan Klein, Tom Newkirk, Al Howland, Denise Day, Michael Williams, Kenny Rotner arrived at 7:07 PM

Student Representative: Yasmeeen Gunderson

ADMINISTRATORS: James Morse, Sue Caswell, Suzanne Filippone, Catherine Plourde, Misty Lowe, David Goldsmith

STAFF PRESENT:

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

Tom opened the meeting expressing appreciation to the Board for a successful Deliberative Session; Denise with the Distinguished Service Award and Brian with his proposed middle school presentation for Warrant Article 3 and Dan for the Guild contract. Everyone did a tremendous job explaining the warrant articles they were representing. He also hoped that Superintendent Morse was feeling okay as well.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Denise Day moved to approve the agenda as written, 2nd by Brian Cisneros. Motion passed 6-0. With the student representative voting in the affirmative.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion to approve 1/22/20 regular meeting minutes:

Revisions:

Page 4, after paragraph 5 Dan Klein asked that the following be added. "Todd Allen replied that the teachers meet at least monthly and sometimes more than that."

Page 4 after paragraph 4 Denise Day asked that the following be added after the last sentence. "Currently is the proficiency model being used in the classroom?"

Denise Day moved to approve the 1/22/20 meeting minutes as amended, 2nd by Dan Klein. Motion passed 6-0.

Motion to approve 1/22/20 Non-public meeting minutes:

Revisions:

Michael Williams clarified that the Board Chair declared that they were no longer in public session and that Al's motion was to adjourn the meeting.

Denise Day moved to approve the 1/22/20 non-public meeting minutes as amended, 2nd by Brian Cisneros. Motion passed 6-0.

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V. ANNOUNCEMENTS, COMMENDATIONS AND COMMENTS:

A. District:

David Goldsmith and Misty Lowe explained to the Board that Kindergarten Registration has just begun at both the Moharimet and Mast Way Schools. As of today, the registration numbers for Moharimet are at 25 and the registration numbers for Mast Way are at 35.

David explained that at this point last year Moharimet was at 33, at 45 for the entire week and at 57 by the start of school. Misty apologized that she did not have the historical data but would be happy to get that for the Board. She did state that she had a young girl come in pumped and ready to begin school right then.

David and Misty will report back to the Board on February 19th the number of students who have been registered and will also provide an overview of the entire process.

Suzanne Filippone, ORHS Principal stated that Tim Lawrence will be showing his work at the Kittery Art Show this month and that there are also 2 high school students who will also be presenting their work at this show.

B. Board:

Denise Day stated that the new edition of the Mouth of The River is out and anyone can subscribe to get it.

Tom stated that Matt Pappas is on the Rochester School Board and also on the NHSBA Board and they had a great presentation entitled "Walk the Walk." The Rochester Board was chosen as the Board of the Year, and Matt made an impressive presentation on the Board's work. Tom applauded him for his Board work which parallels the focus on civic involvement in his classes. He also stated that for the past three years NHSBA has failed the Gun Resolution, but this year they supported it with a vote of 45 in favor, 4 against and 3 abstained. He also stated that there is another House Bill HB1285 that he will keep track of and report back to the Board.

Kenny Rotner asked the student representative if she knew of any groups in the school that were against guns in school?

The student Representative stated she was not aware of any groups but did state that there is a constant fear surrounding that subject and would be interested in having a conversation.

Tom asked if it would be possible to contact other student organizations.

The student representative stated that she will bring this subject up to the student senate.

VI. DISTRICT REPORTS:

A. Assistant Superintendent Reports: None

B. Superintendent's Report:

Jim thanked everyone that came out for the Deliberative Session. It was the best attended session in years. He wanted to let everyone know that reached out to him, that he was fine. He thanked the Music staff and students who performed. It was amazing. He thanked the NHS for their help with the child care. He thanked the Board Members that presented the warrant articles and the Service award. It was a great job by all. He informed the Board that he received an email from the teachers that they appreciated all of the effort that went into their new contract.

Guild Retirement Incentive:

Jim explained that there is a clause in the Guild contract the he reaches out to the Board annually about a retirement incentive. He is not recommending a retirement incentive for this year. He would recommend one for the 2021-22 year.

The Board did not take any action on this topic.

Baseball Field Rental Fees:

Jim referred to the memo that Andy Lathrop, Athletic Director asked to be put on the Board agenda to rent out our Baseball and Softball fields. Andy researched the surrounding towns to see what the rate was that was being charged. He determined that the rate should be \$150 per double headers.

Dan Klein explained that this would allow for more utilization of the fields, easier maintenance in the long run. We would need batting cages at some point, we currently have the netting we could use, we just need to establish some type of boundaries.

Denise Day asked that in light of the issues with other facilities, do we anticipate other conflicts.

Jim stated that it would not be with us, we would get first use.

Kenny Rotner asked if the addition of the \$150 charge would be to the procedure only and that the use priorities order remains the same.

Dan Klein confirmed that the \$150 fee would be listed under the For Profit heading.

Dan Klein made a motion to allow the charging of \$150 dollars under the For Profit heading of the procedure KF-R for the rental of our baseball and softball fields, 2nd by Michael Williams. Motion passed with a vote of 7-0 with the student representative voting in the affirmative.

ORYA Communication:

Jim and the Board had a lengthy discussion surrounding the current happenings with the District and ORYA. It was decided that Jim would contact the ORYA Board of Directors and suggest scheduling a meeting.

Candidates Night:

Jim explained to the Board that this event has had very limited attendance over the past couple of years. We are also having a hard time finding a moderator for this year's event. It was suggested that a new way of introducing the running candidates could be to videotape a short segment of each candidate and place it on the district website.

Kenny ask if there was a policy pertaining to Candidates Night.

Jim stated that there is not.

Jim asked both Denise Day and Michael Williams if they would be willing to record a video for placement on the district website. They were in agreement with this plan.

C. Business Administrator:

Sue Caswell updated the Board on the status of the current budget. A clarifying question was asked and answered pertaining to the substitute line.

Jim explained to the Board that the special education revenues and expenses are a concern right now and, in the future, we might need to tap into the special education revenues. We are not asking the Board to do anything tonight just wanted to inform you of the possibility.

D. Student Senate Report:

Yasmeen reported out that the course registration for next year is open from February 7 through the 21. We just had the 8th grade parent night. She also reported that award winning journalist, Sonia Nazario visited ORHS. She read a short statement regarding her background. Informed the Board that Tess and Chani Parrot were selected to participate in the woman's choir at the National Music Education Conference in Portland Oregon. Bill Reeves was selected as the Boys and Girls Swimming and Diving coach of the year.

E. Other: - None

VII. DISCUSSION ITEM:

Charge UNH Survey/Survey Draft for Feedback:

Jim began by explaining the Board charge and the resulting UNH Survey that is being generated. Did we miss anything in terms of how we are asking the questions? The survey will cost the District about \$15,000 to complete.

Al Howland spoke of how parent question one might be better scripted by asking a parent if they understood how to read the information in Power School. He felt that parents review information more on a weekly or assignment based. They go to power school, review the information and subsequently this helps facilitate the parent student conversation of the findings in their child's record. It is basically the understanding between child and parent.

Additional comments and thoughts were shared pertaining to teacher anonymity, possibly including a legend, can the system allow you to skip questions and also include blank spaces for narratives.

Jim thanked the Board for their input and will bring back the completed survey at a later meeting.

VIII. ACTIONS

A. Superintendent Action Items: None

B. Board Action Items:

Motion to approve ORHS Maternity Leave:

Denise Day made a motion to approve the ORHS Maternity Leave of Absence from the BOY to November 6, 2020, 2nd by Brian Cisneros with the student representative voting in the affirmative. Motion approved. Vote 7-0.

Motion to approve List of Policies for second read/adoption.

Revisions/Questions:

Denise Day made a motion to approve the List of Policies as a slate for second read/adoption, 2nd by Dan Klein with the student representative voting in the affirmative. Motion Approved. Vote 7-0.

X. SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE UPDATES:

A. Manifests Reviewed and Approved by Manifest Committee:

Tom Newkirk and Brian Cisneros reviewed the manifests.

Payroll Manifest #15 \$1,359,646.44

Vendor Manifest #17: \$730,895.29

Al Howland reported out that the Wellness employee subcommittee met, and he explained all of the incentives that an employee can use, biometric screening, smart shopper and that participation has increased. He also reported out that the sustainability committee also met and will be doing a solid waste audit throughout the District. He also stated that they are looking at the current policy and will be updating and revising it for a review by the Policy Committee when completed. He stated that the 50th anniversary of Earth Day will be celebrated with a dinner here at the HS. He spoke of a video from North East Research Recovery that he will send to Dr. Morse to share with the Board that was very interesting and informative.

X. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Dean Rubine from Lee welcomed Kenny back and congratulated both Michael and Denise on their run for their Board seats for the next three years. He spoke about the past candidates' nights and stated that there were three contested races since 2013. He complemented the success of deliberative session and also that Dr. Morse was okay. He informed everyone that there will be Math Regionals at UNH on Saturday and invited Board members to attend.

XI. CLOSING ACTIONS:

- A. Future Meeting Dates: 2/4/20 – Session I Deliberative – ORHS Auditorium 7:00 PM
2/5/20 Regular Board Meeting – ORHS Library 7:00 PM
2/18/20 Candidates Night – ORHS C120 7:00 PM
2/19/20 Regular Board Meeting – ORHS Library 7:00 PM

Kenny Rotner made a motion to enter into nonpublic session at 8:10 PM under RSA 91 A:3 II(a), for the Superintendent Evaluation, 2nd by Dan Klein. Upon roll call vote the motion passed 7-0.

**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 made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m., 2nd by Dan Klein. Motion passed 7-0.

Respectfully Submitted,
Wendy L. DiFruscio
Executive Assistant to
Superintendent of Schools