

**Oyster River Cooperative School District
REGULAR MEETING**

June 2, 2021**Oyster River High School Auditorium****7:00 PM**

- 0. CALL TO ORDER 7:00 PM**
- I. 6:30 – 7:00 PM MANIFEST REVIEW/APPROVAL AT EACH SCHOOL BOARD MEETING**
- II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
- III. PUBLIC COMMENTS (Total allotted time for public comment is 30 minutes)**
- IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
- Motion to approve 5/12/21 Workshop and 5/19/21 Regular and 5/19/21 SEALED Non-Public 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**
- High School Robotics Presentation
- C. Business Administrator**
- D. Student Representative Report**
- E. Finance Committee Report**
- F. Other:**
- VII. UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGENDA *{Requires unanimous approval. Individual items may be removed by any Board Member for separate discussion and vote}***
- Motion to approve teacher nominations for the 2021-2022 School year.
 - Motion to approve ORHS one-year Leave of Absence for the 2021-22 school year.
 - Motion to approve list of policies for second read/adoption. DN- Booster Clubs, DIA – Fund Balance
 -
- VIII. DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS**
- School Board 2021-22 Master Schedule Meeting Dates – Draft
 - Confirm Proposed July/August meeting dates: July 21 and August 4, August 18
 - Discussion on the May 25, 2021 Diversity, Visibility, and Standing Together in Oyster River Forum.
 - Framework for Fall 2021 School Opening
 - Motion to endorse the Fall 2021 School Opening framework as presented or amended.
- IX. SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE UPDATES**
- X. PUBLIC COMMENTS (Total allotted time for public comment is 30 minutes)**
- XI. CLOSING ACTIONS**
- A. Future meeting dates:** June 16, 2021 Workshop Meeting – 6:00 PM – ORHS Auditorium
June 16, 2021 Regular Meeting – 7:00 PM – ORHS Auditorium
July 21, 2021 Regular Meeting – ORHS Auditorium

- XII. NON-PUBLIC SESSION: RSA 91-A:3 II {If Needed}**
NON-MEETING SESSION: RSA 91-A2 I {If needed}

XIII. ADJOURNMENT:

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

Respectfully submitted,

Superintendent

Public wishing to attend our regular meetings need to arrive between 6:30 and 7:00 as everyone will need to participate in a health screening to enter the auditorium. The doors will be locked at 7 p.m.

**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:

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| • Michael Williams, Chair | Term on Board: 2020 - 2023 |
| • Denise Day, Vice-Chair | Term on Board: 2020 - 2023 |
| • Brian Cisneros | Term on Board: 2021 - 2024 |
| • Thomas Newkirk | Term on Board: 2019 - 2022 |
| • Allan Howland | Term on Board: 2021 - 2022 |
| • Daniel Klein | Term on Board: 2021 - 2024 |
| • Yusi Turell | Term on Board: 2021 - 2024 |

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:

- a. 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.
- b. The hiring of any person as a public employee.
- c. 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.
- d. 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.
- e. 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 District

WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES

May 12, 2021

DRAFT

School Board Present: Al Howland, Brian Cisneros, Dan Klein, Denise Day, Tom Newkirk, Yusi Turell

Student Representative: Absent

Administrators Present: Jim Morse, Sue Caswell

Staff Present:

Guest Present:

Called to Order at 7:00 PM by Chair Michael Williams

Michael Williams welcomed the community members in attendance, and instructed where the microphone was located. Michael asked speakers to introduce themselves by name and town of residence. He then outlined the topics the Board would be willing to discuss. Michael also stated to the attendees that the Board members' answers were their personal opinion, and not necessarily that of the Board as a whole, and that no voting or decisions would be made that night.

Brett Gibson of Durham thanked the Board for providing this opportunity for the community to speak. Brett was part of a group that procured funding for completing the High School tennis courts, and would like to partner with someone that could help finish the project. Brett recognized that there were funds set aside for the project that were reallocated to the new middle school, however wanted to speed up the process as there are around forty students that play tennis, and the boys' team may be going to the state championship this year.

Scott Shire of Durham thanked the Board for providing the opportunity for the community to speak, and for the hard work of the Board during COVID. Scott's daughter plays tennis, and although the new courts are budgeted for next year, he would like to speed up the process, if possible. Scott stated it is difficult for the students to play on the courts near the playground, and that the new courts are important to the reputation and legacy of the tennis team and in representing the community. In travelling to other schools, Scott has been impressed by how much other schools are investing in athletics and feels the new courts will bring the school and community together.

Al Howland clarified to Brett and Scott that the tennis courts are budgeted into the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for fiscal year (FY) 2022-2023 for \$225,000. Al stated it is unlikely the project will be moved up because the area is currently needed for parking until the middle school is completed, and that the district is trying to self-fund two positions for the Chinese program, which is close to the cost of the tennis courts.

Denise Day stated she supports the tennis courts, but the area is needed for parking which was lost with the construction of the middle school. Denise stated she also supports getting the tennis courts constructed as soon as possible.

Michael Williams stated it is a project that the district can try to do during the summer of 2022 instead of at the end of the year, but it will depend on the completion of the middle school.

Andrew Bullman of Lee thanked the Board for the forum. Andrew asked how Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion are going to be implemented across the curriculum.

Yusi explained that over the past 12 months, an equity, justice and anti-racism committee was formed with Board members and community members to discuss those goals, and that the district is hiring an intern from UNH this summer to look at a model and curriculum from other school districts and how we can implement them here. Yusi also mentioned there will be a Forum on 5/25 for Diversity.

Denise Day stated that we have many teachers that include social justice and diversity in their curriculum already, and many faculty members are dedicated to that work.

Yusi also explained the district has adopted a policy that is more actively finding different ways to support transgendered students, and students of different cultures and ethnicities

Michael Williams stated this summer the Board will look at the Strategic Plan and see where the district is and where they are behind.

Jill Palmero of Lee asked the District if there is a possibility of naming something at the new middle school after Dr. Morse and/or Todd Allen in honor of their hard work. In response to diversity and inclusion Jill stated she felt like the Board took away some of her choices, and that she would like to be notified if a certain topic is going to be discussed at school as she would like to prepare for the conversation at her home. Jill also asked that masks be optional for students this Fall, and that the Board allow parents to make the decision for their kids. Jill would also like the remote option to be removed officially as she has spoken with teachers and they have claimed it's too hard for them to teach remotely.

Brian Cisneros stated he is all for the naming, and the Board needs to discuss it and vote on the matter. Brian pointed out the new middle school will not be open until February or March of 2022 so there is time.

Tom Newkirk agreed that Dr. Morse has been working hard and has been very persistent with every detail of the project.

Brian claimed Dr. Morse has attended around 120 meetings for this project, and his 40-year career has come to fruition with this building.

Yusi also agreed that Dr. Morse and Todd have been vital in the creation of the new middle school, but posed the question on what is the best way to recognize them, what is the purpose of naming things in the new school? It's possible those two answers may overlap. Yusi also stated the Board must look at if it is appropriate and is it the best choice? Yusi suggested it is possible there are more meaningful ways to recognize them, and also keep in mind what is more meaningful to children?

Dan Klein emphasized the importance of thinking thoughtfully as honoring someone calls for a process, and the Board need to make sure to put a lot of thought behind the meaning behind the honor, and that the Board is in the beginning phases of figuring this out.

Regarding alerting parents of certain topics being discussed in the classroom

Yusi emphasized the goal is communication. Al agreed the district wants parents to know so they can be included and engage their student at home. The purpose is to create equity and address systematic racism.

Yusi added that the district wants to discuss systematic racism and injustices so students can be aware that they exist.

Regarding to the Fall reopening plan with the masks and remote option

Al stated that with masks the district has been trying to follow the CDC, and that the District will need to revisit to see what their recommendation is in the Fall.

Michael stated he agrees, and that there are only five days away from younger kids being vaccinated.

Jill stated the real concern was that she could not adjust her plan because they were locked into the MOA, and she doesn't want to be locked into a set of standards based on what is happening now, and wants the district to look at more than just CDC recommendations, as she is less concerned with their kids wearing masks.

Michael agreed that when the school Board looked at plans for the school year, they didn't chart a course to revisit masks as well as they could have, and that the district will not lock in their decision in June or July.

Al stated that when the school Board met again to discuss the MOA, the verbiage was 'per the CDC', so the flexibility did exist.

Jill stated she respectfully disagrees, and that she didn't have an option regarding the matter.

Yusi state that we are used to wearing masks, although it is difficult to hear and understand others. There are downsides to following the CDC recommendations, but we will be able to adapt. Yusi also noted that the main way to reopen schools is to have a high vaccination rate in the community, and that it is a community choice.

Mike Gregory of Lee requested the schools to open fully, as signs have been showing for months that children are not getting and spreading COVID at high rates and he feels a full open is the way to go. Mike stated that adults that want to be vaccinated have had the time to do so. Mike also requested diversity and inclusion topics should be fully public information, and would like full transparency regarding these topics.

Michael stated there is some flexibility, however, no one on the Board is a medical professional so the Board will not be taking chances interpreting guidelines.

Al stated we get weekly updates regarding COVID numbers in New Hampshire and that the district has also been in touch with an epidemiologist. Al also noted that there has been an update and soon ages 12+ can be vaccinated and all staff will be vaccinated.

Yusi stated regarding DEI mis-steps, we are not all experts, and it is a learning process; the committee talks a lot about how complex it all is and how it is something that should be uniting and lifting up our community, it's not a closed room that decides the topics. The committee is looking at how can we make our students feel like they can make changes and not be shamed. It's a complex understanding in the roles they can play in the society. It's sometimes hard to know what to do even with the best of ideals and goals. As a community we can come together to form the best for Oyster River.

Michael stated that as a school Board and school district we don't have a specific curriculum regarding diversity and inclusion topics, and it is instead more of a parent to teacher and parent to principal conversation.

Denise stated that in terms of what teachers teach in a class, it is different from elementary to high school, but parents can always go into Power School to see what is happening in the student's class, and if there is a unit parents object to then they can talk to teachers to make arrangements and that this has always been a policy with the district. Denise also stated that parents have the authority to say if they don't want their student to participate in a certain topic.

Brooke Heller (town not mentioned) highly commended the district for moving forward with the anti-racist curriculum, and feels the risks of not implementing the curriculum outweigh the fear of making mistakes while doing it, and she and her family greatly appreciate it. Brooke asked the district to work to recruit more people of color to teach in the district. Brooke also noted the mental health toll of the pandemic has been unfathomable for some families, a lot of kids have fallen behind, and Brooke suggested the Board do a "post-mortem" to discuss what happened last year, and she would like to know what would be done differently, and what has been learned from the last year.

Al stated that he thinks reexamining our crisis management plan is a great idea and an excellent idea for over the summer.

Yusi stated that the Board requested information throughout the arc of the decision-making process to involve families, and that will also be done for the fall. Yusi also acknowledged that she wanted to underscore the mental health needs people have as a result of COVID.

Tom stated that trying to run a dual school program is stressful and inefficient, and doing that again this fall would be very expensive, unless there is a huge problem we don't see now. Tom stated his goal is to be fully all in with no remote option. Tom also acknowledged that teachers have worked very hard this year and often felt unsuccessful.

Denise stated that next time there is a pandemic we'll do better, but it was difficult as nobody had experience with this, and just did not know. Denise also stated the Board got better at having actual data because of Todd and the group he was working with. Denise stated she supports fully reopening, and urged people that can get vaccinated should get vaccinated.

Brooke stated she appreciates the Board feels they did the best they could but would like to figure out a way to make it work next time because it was disastrous.

Yusi remarked that we didn't have a way to toggle our models but hopes we will have different states and stages to help us switch between the different models.

Bob of Durham expressed his disappointment in that his daughter has been unable to be in school with her friends, and needed to wear a mask in school, as well as ride the bus with the windows down. Bob reminded the Board that they represent the community, not the teachers. Bob felt as though the community funded the schools for a full year and they did nothing for the students. Bob stated he had also received a letter from his daughter's teacher saying that the students would be eating on the floor, which prompted him to call the school and then the health board until he was assured the students wouldn't be on the floor. Bob stated the Administrators he spoke with at the schools said it was due to efficiency. Bob also stated problems he had regarding teachers being unable to help student open their food and drinks. Bob asked the Board to disclose the names of the administrators on the task force and wanted to know what their punishment would be for allowing this to happen.

Al stated that clearly everyone has been under stress this past year and that most of the Board members have children and see the stress from both sides. Al recognized that this has been the most difficult challenge he has faced in 10 years of being on the Board, and that the mental impact of the pandemic is going to take years to get over.

Bob stated the protocols were implemented without public input, and claimed he spoke to an administrator that stated it was inefficient to wipe down tables between students eating.

Yusi stated she felt Bob's emotion as there have been many times this year, she too felt angry and though it is too much, internally, and externally. Regarding eating on the floor, Yusi stated that the administration has worked tirelessly to find different and creative approaches to have kids eat at a distance without missing academic time, or eating too early or late in the day.

Tom agreed that the schools can look into the matter, as it is not satisfactory and he feels bad this is what the student experienced and would like the actions to be corrected.

Deb of Lee thanked the teachers, administrators, and students, feeling the students deserve credit for their resilience. As a member of the 2015 Diversity Committee, Deb would like for the district to create more access for all students to school events. Deb encouraged the Board to think about how not all students may be at the same reading level, or some students may communicate differently and are not getting access to the information the same way other students do.

Michael thanked Deb for stepping forward and stated 'access' is a great word to use, and that there is no easy answer but the district will need to work more on inclusion.

Denise stated that the problem also touches on communication, and we have a communication committee so we can correct how we communicate information in the district and look at ways that we are missing.

Yusi stated that supporting those with different ways of learning supports everyone, not just that individual.

Al stated Deb made a great point, and that the district needs to look at access with a broad umbrella to provide opportunity and access for everyone for the events.

Steph Graham thanked everyone for their questions and answers and brought up the current problem of the mental health challenges students are facing. Steph stated she had asked for permission for one of her children to attend school without a mask, and felt the district repeatedly denied her child access to school without a mask, despite medical documentation. Steph asked the Board under what authority does the district deny education to children that are not violating any mandates.

Al stated the mandate doesn't apply to the school property or private property, and the district was trying to maximize the safety of our students and teachers.

Steph thanked the Board for helping the greater good but didn't feel it addressed the rights of her child to attend public learning. Steph stated that remote learning is not equitable to in-person learning, and that she has been told by parents who decided to try remote learning that the teachers told them not to do remote. Steph stated it is important the district take the time and energy to assess the harm of mask wearing by children and review the evidence instead of just looking at the CDC guidelines. Steph also requested that the district send out a survey to learn what the community thinks about this issue and what is best for the children.

Michael stated that the State Attorney General recently reaffirmed it is okay for schools to determine their mask policies and require students to wear them, but could not speak to it if the student had medical exemptions.

Steph encouraged the district to look at whether or not it is lawful to deny education to someone with medical exemptions.

Laura Vittorioso of Barrington stated she understands it has been a difficult year and everyone has worked hard, but she is curious about the schedule and policies of high school for next year. Laura is curious if the students are going to be required to get vaccinations, and if the district will still use the COVID matrix.

Denise stated that the State of New Hampshire is not requiring the COVID vaccine, so the school will not. Denise stated the Board will discuss schedules for the fall as they discuss reopening. Denise also stated that the high school has been talking about having a 9/10 and 11/12 pod with the idea being that they are trying to limit a cohort in case the school needs to do contact tracing of sorts.

Michael stated that the day after Suzanne was hired as Assistant Superintendent, the district started looking at hiring a principal for the high school and they are confident they will not need to have an interim principal. Michael also stated that the Board doesn't typically look at the schedule in the schools, and his expectation is that the fall will open as normal as possible.

Al said there will be more feedback from teachers and the Board will work on it.

Brian stated he can see September opening with slight differences but pretty much normal. Brian stated that 13 months ago it was supposed to be a 3-week shutdown, and that coming out will hopefully be better than going in. The goal is to get as close to normal as possible by September.

Dan reminded the attendees that what can get lost in the details is that the importance of normal is how the school is designed to function best, the community and Board has the same objective in mind, but differ in what they think is the best course. Dan also stated the Board worked to address the shortcomings in a workshop and that "normal" has always been the goal. Dan continued by stating that the Board doesn't want restrictions because they stand in the way of the school performing its best and the way it was designed to work. Dan also stated that he is committed to doing better, as are his colleagues.

Yusi stated that we've stumbled upon a few things that have worked well, and thinks that having a consortium of what worked well and what didn't would be helpful.

Mike Gregory approached the podium again and asked the Board if they are looking to the experiences of other schools as well instead of just the CDC?

Michael stated the Board does that at different levels because we have students that go to tech centers in Dover and Somersworth, and there are other schools that we consider peer schools that we pay close attention to. Michael also said the state DOE has been very helpful with communicating to the other districts.

Brian stated we can definitely learn from other districts, but it's not as black and white as a lot of people think with UNH, and a small middle school with less room for distancing, plus we have more than one town as a coop and that's hard.

Michael thanked everyone for coming, stated he expects the Board will discuss this next week and come up with a plan for a remote meeting as well.

Brian informed the audience that everyone in the school district from top to bottom had a hard and challenging year, and that nobody is coming out unscathed regarding educational issues and mental health issues.

Michael stated that although we didn't talk a lot about the new middle school, it is taking shape and looking great, and he thanked the community for the support that went into that.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Oyster River Cooperative School Board

Regular Meeting Minutes

May 19, 2021

DRAFT

SCHOOL BOARD PRESENT: Michael Williams, Al Howland, Brian Cisneros, Yusi Turell, Dan Klein, Tom Newkirk, Denise Day **STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE:** Megan Deane

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT: Jim Morse, Sue Caswell, David Goldsmith, Catherine Plourde, Misty Lowe, Suzanne Filippone, Jay Richard, Todd Allen

STAFF PRESENT: Andy Lathrop

GUEST PRESENT: Holly Stark

I. CALLED TO ORDER at 7:00 PM by Michael Williams

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Denise Day moved to approve the agenda, 2nd by Dan Klein. Motion passed 7-0 with Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Denise Day moved to approve May 5, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes, 2nd by Brian Cisneros.

Brian: Correction on page 5, my quote should read, "so I am not really accepting of that."

Tom: Correction on pages 3 and 9, the correct spelling of Monica Chiu's last name

Yusi: Correction on page 6: my quote should read, "varying degrees of training"

Vote on motion to approve May 5, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes with corrections passed 7-0 with Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

Denise Day moved to approve both May 5th, 2021 Non-Public Session Minutes, 2nd by Yusi Turell.

Denise: Correction that Dr. Morse was not present for the second non-public session.

Dan Klein: Correction that Suzanne Filippone was present for the non-public session that began at 7:04 pm.

Vote on motion to approve both May 5th, 2021 Non-Public Session Minutes passed 7-0 with Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS, COMMENDATIONS AND COMMENTS

A. District: None

B. Board

Denise commented that seeing the list of this year's retirees was like taking a walk down memory lane, and they had a profound impact in the district, and she wished them the best.

Tom Newkirk recognized Chris Hall on the completion of his book that will be published this Fall. Tom also recognized other notable authors that have come from the community in the past.

Michael Williams recognized tonight as Megan Deane's last school Board meeting as the Student Representative and read a goodbye speech on behalf of the Board.

Al Howland stated that in the past the hope was that the Student Representative role would expand, and that he hopes Megan can pass along her knowledge to the next Student Representative.

Dan Klein commended Megan on the fantastic job she has done, including the work she has done behind the scenes in her role.

Denise Day shared her appreciation of the initiative Megan took with student surveys, and for going above and beyond in the role.

Brian Cisneros commended Megan for not being afraid to deal with serious issues, and setting the bar so high for the next Student Representative.

Yusi Turell asked Megan if she had any reflections on how the Board serves the students of the district.

Megan thanked the Board for their comments and stated her time has been a great experience. Megan felt this was an important year for a student representative to be on the Board and gave encouragement to future students considering the role.

Dr. Morse stated that Megan raised the level of discourse for the entire Board and recognized the impact she had on the Board by participating so fully.

Michael Williams presented Megan with a small gift and flowers on behalf of the Board.

VI. DISTRICT REPORTS

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

Todd Allen commended Megan Deane on being a great Student Representative.

Todd also commented that the COVID data is in a really positive trend and Durham is in a great place numbers-wise.

Communications Committee

Todd began by acknowledging community members on the committee: Melissa Gass, Amy Sterndale, Tom Elliot, and Holly Stark.

Holly thanked the Board for having her, as well as Yusi and Dr. Morse. Holly discussed the committee was made of community members, teachers, and users from various backgrounds that worked together to find the charge of what the district needs. The committee decided there would be multiple phases in determining the current state of communication now, what needs to be changed, and the best way to implement those changes. Holly also discussed the areas the committee wants to prioritize and what will be focused on in those areas.

Todd described the "low hanging fruit" items as things that are inexpensive and doable in the short-term, such as good news stories from classrooms, Friday updates from the Board before School Board meetings, and short informational videos. Todd stated the next steps are on the last page of the report, and that they will be seeking help from the UNH Survey Center in creating a survey to help establish what is needed.

Holly stated the committee also developed a vision of what communication in the district would look like and there are multiple moving parts that need to lead back to one place.

Todd opened the discussion for questions.

Yusi thanked the Holly and Todd for identifying the three pillars of the plan, and asked if there is a need of a project manager, and at what point does that become a need?

Holly stated that need became apparent in order to keep the process going, make sure there is a non-biased party, and to make sure perspectives don't fall through the cracks. Holly also stated this would provide room for experts and consultants in very focused areas.

Al Howland commented that he appreciated the systemic look at the approach at the underlying issues instead of just patching the issues and asked what the timeline was for the survey and getting back the results.

Dr. Morse stated it will depend on the workload of the Survey Center and the Committee will share the timeline and results when they have them.

Yusi asked if the Committee thought about reaching out to teachers to see what is working well and what could be improved.

Todd stated that he thinks all impacted groups should be included in the survey group and participating in the process.

Yusi asked if the teachers would be outreached through the survey.

Dr. Morse stated the survey would be for the community at large, as the teachers could be easily outreached.

Holly stated the Committee is definitely a group effort, and was happy to represent them tonight.

B. Superintendent's Report

Acknowledgment of 2021 Retirees

Dr. Morse stated that this year's retirees in the district have over 500 years of combined service, and invited the Principals to say a few words.

Misty Lowe stated there are four retirees from Mast Way this year with over 90 collective years.

David Goldsmith stated there are six retirees from Moharimet this year with over 160 years of service.

Jay Richard stated there are six retirees at the middle school with over 155 years of service.

Suzanne Filippone stated the high school has three retirees this year, with a combined 77 years of service.

Dr. Morse also recognized the retirement of Todd Allen and Michelle Loring, and corrected himself in saying there is actually closer to 600 years of combined service amongst the retirees, and thanked them all.

Al Howland also thanked all the retirees.

Denise Day recognized several retirees and the role they played in her son's education in the district.

Megan Deane thanked all the retirees and noted several of them had played a role in her education as well.

CDC Mask Recommendations

Catherine Plourde spoke about the mask protocols that will be in effect over the next few weeks while school is still in session. Catherine stated that students will still be required to wear masks when indoors or on the bus, but outdoor sports and end of year activities will have more relaxed guidelines. Catherine also discussed how these guidelines apply to fully vaccinated individuals, and that some guidelines are vague and can be used as the district's discretion.

Brian Cisneros stated the guidelines presented do not follow CDC guidelines, as the end of year activities allow for individuals to be distanced by only three feet if they are unmasked, and outdoor classes call for individuals be masked if they cannot distance by six feet, however CDC says individuals no longer need to wear masks outside.

Catherine stated that the CDC and DHHS guidelines and alternatives, as well as outdoor transmission rates, vaccination rates, the schools' information, and local metrics were all taken into consideration when determining what guidelines would work best for the district.

Brian stated the issue is that the CDC has been used to guide the decisions, and now the DHHS is being used when they were never used previously.

Catherine stated DHHS guidelines have been looked at as well in the past, and now they are trying to learn from what they have done previously and look at what they know now versus what they knew then, and look at the alternatives offered by the CDC that didn't exist earlier.

Brian stated that the Board is currently sitting six feet apart and most of the Board is vaccinated and asked why we are wearing masks.

Catherine stated that the indoor guidelines and rules haven't changed per the CDC.

Denise Day thanked Catherine for her work, and stated she is concerned about indoor sports and the potential confusion with coaches regarding who is vaccinated and who is not vaccinated, and it may be easier to continue requiring those athletes to wear masks.

Andy Lathrop stated a list would be required from other schools of who is vaccinated and can play without a mask.

Michael Williams stated it is a great way to encourage vaccination.

Andy stated it may lead to more kids pushing to be vaccinated so they do not need to wear a mask.

Michael asked if there is still a limit on spectators for sporting events.

Andy said there is still a limit and covered what that limit is for indoor and outdoor sports, stating the number of attendees has been manageable.

Michael asked which middle school sports are running right now and if they are following the same guidelines.

Andy stated track and field, lacrosse, baseball, and softball are currently running, and they are adhering to the same guidelines.

Michael asked how these guidelines have been communicated to parents.

Andy stated the Board is hearing it first and he will be sending the communication to the athletic community.

Dr. Morse stated the middle school and high school principals would communicate it to parents.

Al Howland thanked Catherine and Andy for doing this work and stated the Town of Durham is pretty consistent with the guidelines they had set forth.

Dan Klein thanked Catherine as anything that becomes more complex is more work, also stated he agrees with Michael that this may add more incentive for individuals to be vaccinated.

Brian cited the CDC website stating fully vaccinated individuals could resume activities without masks or physically distancing.

Catherine stated this was relating to outdoors and the school guidance portion clarified masks are to be worn inside. Catherine also stated there have been many articles written stating that the CDC did not clarify this well enough.

Yusi stated the CDC was not clear enough in their intent in their new guidelines regarding schools

Brian stated wearing masks defeated the purpose of getting vaccinated, and cited the original order from the Governor exempting specific individuals from wearing masks.

Yusi thanked Catherine and Andy for their work in interpreting the new guidelines, and stated that as an athlete she can't imagine trying to play sports while wearing a mouth guard and mask, and feels the new guidelines are showing more compassion for the kids.

Catherine stated that indoor masking will continue to be reviewed, but tonight's discussion was aimed specifically at outdoor events.

Brian stated he feels the indoor mask discussion should happen tonight, considering the changes that have been taking place at the CDC, and a fully vaccinated person that is distanced six feet from others should be able to remove their mask, those that are uncomfortable can keep their masks on.

Michael Williams asked for clarification from Catherine and Dr. Morse on if this is information being given to the Board or if there is action required of the Board.

Dr. Morse stated it is an update on providing guidance to the community and not an actionable item by the Board, wants to loosen the guidelines where they are comfortable, such as outdoor activities. Dr. Morse also stated that school staff and students will be required to continue wearing masks, and as representatives of the community the Board should be modeling that behavior.

Brian stated he agrees with that and clarified to Catherine and Andy that he does think it's an excellent report and agrees with a majority of it.

Catherine thanked Andy and Suzanne for their teamwork in putting together the guidelines.

Dr. Morse thanked Todd Allen, Catherine, and Sue Caswell for reviewing the documents each week to help guide the district each week.

Dr. Morse reminded the Board of the Asian-American and Pacific Islander Forum on Tuesday, May 25, and thanked Yusi for her massive amounts of work in organizing the event, hoped the Board and community would be able to attend.

Denise pointed out the event will be starting at 6pm, not 7pm as stated on the Meeting Agenda.

Brian thanked Andy for implementing the previous mask rules at sporting events and acknowledged that spectators were not always nice in complying.

Catherine recognized Brian Ryan for being awarded and Emerging Leader for the New Hampshire Association of Special Education Administrators in the Southeast Region.

Yusi added that the doors for the Asian-American and Pacific Islander Forum will open at 5:45pm, and there will be a slideshow with faces of members of our community. Yusi also thanked Yanhong Dai and the other parent speakers that will be sharing their experiences.

C. Business Administrator

Towle Driving School Bid

Denise Day moved to approve the Towle Driving School for the driver education program, 2nd by Brian Cisneros. Motion passed, 7-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

Sue Caswell stated that New Hampshire Saves is starting a new program called Power to Net Zero and would like to use the new middle school as their poster child for the campaign.

D. Student Representative Report

Megan Deane thanked the Board for being so wonderful and willing to listen to her input as the Student Representative. Regarding all-in, Megan stated it has been going well for students and

nothing compares to being physically in school. Megan stated that some students have chosen not to return, but teachers are getting creative to meet the needs of these students. Megan also stated that it is difficult to have two types of students in one class, and she encouraged the Board to move toward removing the remote option entirely for students.

E. Finance Committee Report

Al Howland discussed the finance committee wanting to prioritize what the district obligations are, to determine where the fund balance will be and if any of the items are negotiable. Al discussed the CIP projects that could be moved to make more funding available for the Chinese program and the piano for the middle school, as well the motions required to move the funds.

Denise Day moved to use up to \$175,000 toward the Moharimet office project and approve the \$178,205 to complete the CIP projects as listed on the Finance Committee Memo, 2nd by Brian Cisneros.

Brian asked if the technology costs should be included.

Denise added to the motion the \$174,850 for the technology costs.

Michael clarified the new motion is for \$174,850 for the technology costs, materials for the Moharimet project for \$175,000, and additional capital projects as outlined in the total of \$178,205.

Tom Newkirk asked for clarification on the three projects that would be shifting, and what the total amount would be.

Michael states the total amount will be \$528,055.

Vote on motion to use up to \$175,000 toward the Moharimet office project, approve the \$178,205 to complete the CIP projects as listed on the Finance Committee Memo, and \$174,850 for the technology costs at the middle school passed 7-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

Michael continued to the discussion regarding the piano for the middle school.

Brian Cisneros moved to purchase the piano for the middle school for \$145,000 out of the fund balance, 2nd by Denise Day.

Yusi expressed concern over not seeing options for a slightly less nice piano or a more used piano that could save a lot more money.

Dr. Morse stated the option was looked at and it was determined the best decision to go with is this piano.

Tom asked if anyone has travelled to actually play the piano.

Dr. Morse stated that has not yet happened, but it will before the purchase is made official.

Tom requested a concert pianist travel to actually play and be sure it is a quality instrument.

Dr. Morse agreed.

Dan expressed concern in that the Board approved the Chinese program, technology for middle school, as well as new bleachers, and that there is a lot more to be done to get the Middle School functional, and is unsure the piano is something needed right now.

Dr. Morse states he feels it is an investment in the future, like the other programs that were just approved.

Brian Cisneros amends the motion to purchase the piano out of the fund balance for \$145,000 after the testing at the discretion of the superintendent with the guidance of the music department.

Denise accepts the amendment.

Motion with amendment passes, 6-1 with Dan Klein voting in the negative, and the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

Chair Williams calls for a Five minute break 9:24pm

The Board returned to at 9:29pm.

F. Other: None

VII. UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGENDA

Brian Cisneros moves to approve the Unanimous Consent Agenda to approved teacher nomination for the 2021-22 school year, 2nd by Michael Williams. Motion passed, 7-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

VIII. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

May 25 Diversity, Visibility, and Standing Together Forum

Michael Williams stated this was touched upon in the Superintendent's Report, asked if anything needed to be added.

Discussion on May 12, 2021 Form

Brian requested that in the future we decide on one topic for the forum.

Tom suggested the Board give guidelines to the audience for how to participate, such as no comments from the audience, limiting the number of questions that can be asked in one turn, and request that everyone must identify themselves.

Michael stated that as the Chair he would try not to be too lax with guidelines next time.

Yusi suggested a tighter facilitation and topic, maybe some type of presentation regarding the stage we are in.

Al stated that we need to look at what we have learned from the forum and how we want to address those issues, and suggested that we next have a forum about the Anti-Racism Policy as there were a lot of questions regarding this.

Michael asked for opinions regarding a forum for faculty and staff.

Denise stated she would like to see a forum for the faculty and staff because it is important to hear their opinions on what worked and didn't work for them in the past year.

Michael suggested using the first hour of the June 16 meeting as a remote forum for teachers, faculty, and staff.

Al stated he thought it would be important to hold remote forum for remote families.

Dr. Morse will speak to the Guild and support staff to see if that date will work for them.

Ongoing discussion for the opening of schools for Fall 2021

Dr. Morse discussed his desire in wanting to open school in the Fall as normally as possible, and he is hopeful the number of students will be close to what would be typically expected. Dr. Morse stated that the transportation department will need more staff in order for this to happen, as well as what other obstacles the district will face.

Motion to approve list of policies for a first read. DN – Booster Clubs, DIA – Fund Balance

Denise Day move to approve both DN – Booster Clubs and DIA – Fund Balance for first read, 2nd by Brian Cisneros. Motion passed 7-0, with Student Representative voting in the affirmative

IX. SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE UPDATES: None

Manifest Reviewed and Approved by Manifest Committee:

Denise Day and Tom Newkirk reviewed the manifest.

Payroll Manifest #25 \$900,183.33

Vendor Manifest # 25 - \$358,743.51

X. PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

XI. CLOSING ACTIONS

Future Meeting Dates: May 25, 2021 Public Forum – 6:00 pm – ORHS Auditorium
 June 2, 2021 Regular Meeting – 7:00 pm – ORHS Auditorium
 June 16, 2021 Regular Meeting – 7:00 pm – ORHS Auditorium

XII. NON-PUBLIC SESSION

- Discussion of matter that will likely affect persons reputation.

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

Michael Williams moved to enter into non-public meeting session at 10:35 pm in accordance with RSA 91-A:3 II c, 2nd by Brian Cisneros. Upon roll call vote, the motion passed 7-0.

Chair Williams declared the School Board back in public session at 11:00 pm.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Brian Cisneros moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:00 pm, seconded by Al Howland. The motion passed with a vote of 7-0.

Respectfully Submitted,
Alexa Fusilier
Recording Secretary

OYSTER RIVER ROBOTICS: TEAMS, CLUBS, BOOSTERS

ORCSD School Board Presentation

June 2, 2021



1

BACKGROUND

ORCSD STEM Enrichment Through Robotics

Mast Way / Moharimet	ORMS	ORHS
FIRST Lego League	VEX Robotics	FIRST and VEX (variable)
40 students / year (teams fill up in 1 day)	~ 50 students / year	~ 20 students
In-classroom activities, plus extracurricular	Leading program with state championships, hosted events	Program depth driven by student interest

2

2

BACKGROUND

FIRST High School Level Robotics



3

RECOGNITION

Recent ORHS Student Motivated Robotics Initiatives

CONGRATS & THANKS

- Motivated seniors who re-started FIRST team
- Self-starting VEX team won state championship
- Parent mentors and volunteers (Forselius, Hilyard, Locke)
- Volunteer ORHS Faculty and Administration (Oxnard, Cathey, Thompson, Filippone)



4

STEM ENRICHMENT

Benefits of Robotics

“As we designed the robot, we learned modular design, physics, and math. As we built the robot from scratch, we learned machining, more physics, and safety. As we wired, programmed, and drove the robot, we learned logic, strategy, and cooperation as one team.

I learned so much through the season. I got to apply my skills in math, science, and English. But beyond that, I learned critical thinking and leadership skills as a co-captain of the team.

All that, and it’s just so much fun to build things”

- FIRST Robotics team member

5

5

SUPPORT

Integration of Community and Parent Support to “Club”

Investment (time and money) required to run a successful FIRST Robotics program is significant. Other districts expand “Club” policies to accommodate for amount of effort:

Expanded Mentorship

- Non-faculty lead mentors “hired” part-time allowing access to facilities.
- *Litchfield, Hollis-Brookline, Portsmouth*

Lettered Varsity Sport

- Sport designation connects team to existing structures
- *Windham*

Class or Career Tech (CTE)

- Access to variety of sources of financial funding

6

6

SUPPORT

Friends of Oyster River Robotics “Booster”

Given the overall interest in STEM enrichment and robotics across ORCSD, interested in a consistent organizational structure to grow and maintain programs. A “booster” may help:

- Connection and shared initiatives across schools
- Parent involvement and communication
- Community integration and awareness
- Partnership with UNH and regional engineering companies
- Fundraising and expenses tracking

7

7

QUESTIONS / DISCUSSION

8


THANK YOU



Oyster River Cooperative School District

Nomination Form

#of Resumes Received: 8

Name:	John Webb
Date:	5/19/2021
Position:	Director of High School Counseling
Person Replacing:	Kim Felch
Budgeted Amount:	\$95,790
Recommended Step/Salary:	\$99,000
Interviewed By:	Suzanne Filippone, Mark Milliken, Mike McCann, Melissa Jean, Andrew Lathrop, Kim Cassamass, Kim Sekera, Jason Baker, Heather Machanoff, Kim Felch, Felicia Sperry
# Interviewed:	3
Education:	UNH B.A. Psychology UNH Masters Counseling Psychology SNHU Educational Leadership (2022)
Certification:	Guidance Counselor
HQT Status	
Related Experience:	SAU 19 H.S. School Counselor for 21 years UNH/Plymouth State University Adjunct Professor
Comments:	John's 21 years of experience as a high school counselor and his studies in educational leadership will be an asset to ORHS. He is a parent of three ORHS graduates and a dedicated community member. He was also the 2019 NH Counselor of the Year.
Date: <u>5-25-21</u>	Authorized Signature: 

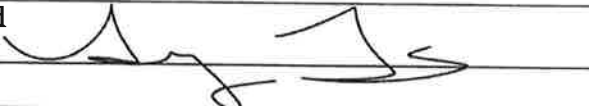
REQUIRED Attachments:
 Resume 3 Letters of Recommendation Copy of Certification

Revised 5/7/09, 9/12/11 to include HQT Status, 7/17/15

Oyster River Cooperative School District

Nomination Form

#of Resumes Received: 12

Name:	Lisa Harling
Date:	5/19/2021
Position:	Library Media Specialist
Person Replacing:	Kathy Pearce
Budgeted Amount:	\$89,437
Recommended Step/Salary:	MA/Step 9 \$63,956
Interviewed By:	Suzanne Filippone, Mark Milliken, Mike McCann, Marjke Yatsevich, Celeste Best, Margaret Kelly
# Interviewed:	3
Education:	Plymouth State Univ. - Library Media Specialist SNHU - Computer Technology Educator SNHU - Business Education, Masters SNHU - Business Studies, B.A. U. Maine Orono - Associates
Certification:	Library Media Specialist K-12 (in process)
HQT Status	
Related Experience:	Durham and Portsmouth Public Libraries Assistant, Library Para at ORHS and Learning Lab Tutor ORHS
Comments:	Lisa will be an asset to our students and teachers. She is dedicated to our community and her expertise in library media sciences will be a benefit to our community.
Date: <u>5-25-21</u>	Authorized Signature: 

REQUIRED Attachments:

Resume 3 Letters of Recommendation Copy of Certification

Policies for
 First/Second Read/Adoption/Deletion
**SB Meeting of
 June 2, 2021**

Title	Code
Policies for First Read	
Policies for Second Read/Adoption - Unanimous Consent	
Booster Clubs	DN
Fund Balance	DIA
Policies for Deletion/Replacement	
Policies in Process	
Distance Education	IMBA
Policy Development System/Policy Adoption/Policy Review and Evaluation	BGA/BGB/BGC

OYSTER RIVER COOPERATIVE SCHOOL BOARD	Policy Code: DN
Policy Committee Review: May 13, 2021 <u>School Board First Read: May 19, 2021</u> <u>School Board Second Read/Adoption: June 2, 2021</u>	Page 1 of 1

ORCSD Booster Clubs

The purpose of the Boosters written in support of and policy is to define the relationship of the ORCSD and Booster Clubs. These clubs are designed to support specific sports and clubs and in doing so may use the district logo and mascot. As such, the clubs must adhere to district policies, procedures and financial guidelines. All activities planned must receive approval of the Athletic Director in advance. If a Booster club is a 501(c)(3), that club is responsible to the federal and state governments related to required reports. All other booster clubs will comply with district finance procedures.

Definition of Booster Club:

According to the National Federation of High Schools, a Booster Club is defined as "an organization that is formed to help support the efforts of a sports team or organization. Support is shown in many ways, including volunteering time, raising money, and contributing funds to better enhance the team or organization's performance."

Booster Club Purpose:

ORCSD is proud to have many dedicated parents willing to donate their time to the betterment of the athletic experience for our students. Booster Clubs are designed to actively support our student athletes, whether it be through fundraising, help at games or assisting the coaching staff in organizing team activities. The Booster Club's primary purpose is to support and to raise resources to help benefit the individual program they represent. All members are expected represent ORCSD in a positive light and to be solid role models for our student athletes.

OYSTER RIVER COOPERATIVE SCHOOL BOARD	Policy Code: DIA
First Read to SB: September 21, 2011 Second Read/Adoption to SB: October 5, 2011 Review Policy Committee: July 9, 2014 School Board First Read: July 16, 2014 School Board Second Read/Adoption: August 20, 2014 Policy Committee Review: May 13, 2021 School Board First Read: May 19, 2021 School Board Second Read/Adoption: June 2, 2021	Page 1 of 4 Category: Recommended

FUND BALANCES

The Oyster River Cooperative School Board in order to address the implications of Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 54, Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Definitions. This policy is created in consideration of unanticipated events that could adversely affect the financial condition of the District and jeopardize the continuation of necessary public services. This policy will ensure that the District maintains adequate fund balances and reserves in order to:

- a. Provide sufficient cash flow for daily financial needs,
- b. Secure and maintain investment grade bond ratings,
- c. Offset significant economic downturns or revenue shortfalls, and
- d. Provide funds for unforeseen expenditures related to emergencies.

FUND TYPE DEFINITIONS

The following definitions will be used in reporting activity in governmental funds across the District. The District may or may not report all fund types in any given reporting period, based on actual circumstances and activity.

The general fund is used to account for all financial resources not accounted for and reported in another fund.

Special revenue funds are used to account and report the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are restricted or committed to expenditure for specific purposes other than capital projects. Examples include, but are not limited to, the Food Service Fund; Federal and State Grant Fund; and Private Grant Fund.

Capital projects funds are used to account for all financial resources restricted, committed or assigned to expenditure for the acquisition or construction of capital assets.

Permanent funds are used to account for resources restricted to the extent that only earnings, and not principal, may be used for purposes that support the District's purposes.

FUND BALANCE REPORTING IN GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

Fund balance will be reported in governmental funds under the following categories using the definitions provided by GASB Statement No. 54:

Nonspendable fund balance

Definition – includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are either:

- a. not in spendable form, or
- b. legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.

OYSTER RIVER COOPERATIVE SCHOOL BOARD	Policy Code: DIA
First Read to SB: September 7, 2011 Second Read/Adoption to SB: October 5, 2011 Review Policy Committee: July 9, 2014 School Board First Read: July 16, 2014 School Board Second Read/Adoption: August 20, 2014 Policy Committee Review: May 13, 2021 School Board First Read: May 19, 2021 School Board Second Read/Adoption: June 2, 2021	Page 2 of 4 Category: Recommended

Classification – Nonspendable amounts will be determined before all other classifications and consist of the following items (as applicable in any given fiscal year):

- The District will maintain a fund balance equal to the balance of any long-term outstanding balances due from others (including other funds of the District)
- The District will maintain a fund balance equal to the value of inventory balances and prepaid items (to the extent that such balances are not offset with liabilities and actually result in fund balance)
- The District will maintain a fund balance equal to the corpus (principal) of any permanent funds (if any) that are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact
- The District will maintain a fund balance equal to the balance of any land or other nonfinancial assets held for sale

Restricted Fund Balance

Definition – includes amounts that can be spent only for the specific purposes stipulated by applicable state and local laws and regulations, external resource providers, ~~or through enabling legislation (for example, but not limited to, actions authorized by the voters at school district meetings).~~

Committed Fund Balance

Definition – includes amounts that can be used only for the specific purposes determined by a formal action of the District’s highest level of decision – making authority (i.e., School Board or voters)

Authority to Commit – Commitments will only be used for specific purposes pursuant to a formal action of the School Board.

Assigned Fund Balance

Definition – includes amounts intended to be used by the District for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed. In governmental funds other than the general fund, assigned fund balance represents the remaining amount that is not restricted or committed.

Authority to Assign – The School Board delegates to the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee the authority to assign amounts to be used for specific purposes. Such assignments cannot exceed the available (spendable, unrestricted, uncommitted) fund balance in any particular fund.

The Board will authorize said expenditures as included in the facilities plan, an emergency situation or unique opportunity.

OYSTER RIVER COOPERATIVE SCHOOL BOARD	Policy Code: DIA
First Read to SB: September 7, 2011 Second Read/Adoption to SB: October 5, 2011 Review Policy Committee: July 9, 2014 School Board First Read: July 16, 2014 School Board Second Read/Adoption: August 20, 2014 Policy Committee Review: May 13, 2021 School Board First Read: May 19, 2021 School Board Second Read/Adoption: June 2, 2021	Page 3 of 4 Category: Recommended

Unassigned Fund Balance

Definition – includes the residual classification for the District’s general fund and includes all spendable amounts not contained in the other classifications. In other funds, the unassigned classification should be used only to report a deficit balance from overspending for specific purposes for which amounts had been restricted, committed, or assigned.

OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES

The following guidelines address the classification and use of fund balance in governmental funds:

Classifying fund balance amounts – Fund balance classifications depict the nature of the net resources that are reported in a governmental fund. An individual governmental fund may include nonspendable resources and amounts that are restricted, committed, or assigned, or any combination of those classifications. The general fund may also include an unassigned amount.

Encumbrance reporting – Encumbering amounts for specific purposes for which resources have already been restricted, committed or assigned should not result in separate display of encumbered amounts. Encumbered amounts for specific purposes for which amounts have not been previously restricted, committed or assigned, will be classified as committed or assigned, as appropriate, based on the definitions and criteria set forth in GASB Statement No. 54. For compliance with state statutory requirements, encumbrance accounting for budgetary and financial reporting to the Department of Education and the Department of Revenue Administration, and as reported in the Required Supplementary Information (RSI) section of the annual financial statements, encumbrances are determined in accordance with RSA 32:7(I).

Chapter 32 Municipal Budget Law – Appropriations

32:7 Lapse of Appropriation

“Annual meeting appropriations shall cover anticipated expenditures for one fiscal year. All appropriations shall lapse at the end of the fiscal year and any unexpended portion thereof shall not be expended without further appropriation, unless: 1. The amount has, prior to the end of that fiscal year, become encumbered by a legally-enforceable obligation, created by contract or otherwise, to any person for the expenditure of that amount;”

Prioritization of fund balance use - When an expenditure is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted (committed, assigned, or unassigned) amounts are available, it shall be the policy of the District to consider restricted amounts to have been reduced first. When an expenditure is incurred for purposes for which amounts in any of the unrestricted fund balance classifications could be used, it shall be the policy of the District that committed amounts would be reduced first, followed by assigned amounts and then unassigned amounts.

OYSTER RIVER COOPERATIVE SCHOOL BOARD	Policy Code: DIA
First Read to SB: September 7, 2011 Second Read/Adoption to SB: October 5, 2011 Review Policy Committee: July 9, 2014 School Board First Read: July 16, 2014 School Board Second Read/Adoption: August 20, 2014 Policy Committee Review: May 13, 2021 School Board First Read: May 19, 2021 School Board Second Read/Adoption: June 2, 2021	Page 4 of 4 Category: Recommended

Unassigned fund balance - For compliance with state statutory requirements, encumbrance accounting for budgetary and financial reporting to the Department of Education and the Department of Revenue Administration, the statutory based General Fund “unreserved-undesigned” fund balance will be used towards funding the appropriations of the subsequent year in accordance with the historical practices of the Commissioner of the Department of Revenue Administration under RSA 198:4-a (III):

Chapter 198 School Money – District Taxes
198:4-a Report of Appropriations Voted

“III The commissioner of revenue administration shall examine such certificates and delete any appropriation which is not made in accordance with the law, and adjust any sum which may be used as a set off against the amount appropriated when it appears to the commissioner of revenue administration such adjustment is in the best public interest.”

198:4-b Contingency Fund

“II. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a school district by a vote of the legislative body may authorize, indefinitely until specific rescission, the school district to retain year-end unassigned general funds in an amount not to exceed, in any fiscal year, 2.5-5 percent of the current fiscal year’s net assessment pursuant to RSA 198:5, for the purpose of having funds on hand to use as a revenue source for emergency expenditures and over expenditures under RSA 32:11, or to be used as a revenue source to reduce the tax rate.”

Unassigned fund balance in the Food Service Fund will be limited to “maximum amounts” as per federal and state regulations.

REPLENISHING DEFICIENCIES

Year-end deficits and any Special revenue fund (including, but are not limited to, the Food Service Fund) will be replenished by year end transfer (journal entry or other method) from the General Fund if the General Fund has available unassigned fund balance (for financial reporting purposes) and “unreserved-undesigned fund balance (for statutory compliance purposes).

Legal References:

- RSA 32, Municipal Budget Law
- RSA 33, Municipal Finance Act
- RSA 35, Capital Reserve Funds
- RSA 198:4-a Report of Appropriations Voted
- RSA 198:4-b Contingency Fund
- Governmental Standards Board Statement 54 (GASB 54)

**OYSTER RIVER COOPERATIVE SCHOOL DISTRICT
2021 - 2022 MASTER SCHEDULE OF SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS**

DRAFT - School Board - June 2, 2021

<u>DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION 7:00 pm</u>
July 7 Manifest Review Meeting (3:30 PM).....	SAU Office - Conference Room
July 21.....	High School Auditorium
August 4.....	High School Auditorium
August 18.....	High School Auditorium
September 1.....	High School Library
September 15.....	High School Library
September 29 Manifest Review Meeting (3:30 PM)....	SAU Conference Room
October 6 (Joint Mtg. w/Barrington 7 - 7:45 PM).....	High School Library
October 20.....	Mast Way Cafeteria
October 28 ~ ½ day Budget Workshop	Lee Safety Complex
November 3.....	High School Library
November 17	High School Library
December 1.....	High School Library
December 15.....	High School Library
December 29 - Manifest Review Meeting (3:30 PM)...	SAU Office - Conference Room
January 5.....	High School Library
January 11 ¹ Bond & Budget Hearing.....	H.S. Auditorium
January 19.....	High School Library
February 2 - Regular Meeting	High School Library
February 8 ² Annual Meeting-Session I.....	H.S. Auditorium
February 15 ³ Candidates Night	High School Room C120
February 16	High School Library
March 2 - Regular Meeting	High School Library
March 8 - Annual Meeting - Session II.....	Town Voting Locations
March 16 - Regular Meeting	Middle School Recital Hall
March 30 - Manifest Review Meeting (3:30 PM)	SAU - Conference Room
April 6	Middle School Recital Hall
April 20.....	Middle School Recital Hall
May 4	Moharimet Cafeteria
May 18	Middle School Recital Hall
June 1	Middle School Recital Hall
June 15	Middle School Recital Hall

¹ Bond hearing- snow date - January 12th

² Session I- snow date - February 9th *Subject to change

³ Candidates Night - Snow Date - February 17th

This calendar subject to change with Board action pending needs of the District



ORCSD School Opening Plan 2021 - 22

SCHOOL BOARD DISCUSSION: JUNE 2, 2021

The Opening of School Plan 2021-22

Recommendations in this plan are based on the review of CDC and DHHS Guidance in conjunction with current local and state COVID data as of May 27, 2021. Both organizations continuously update their guidance on a regular basis. This plan should be reviewed at the August 4, 2021 School Board meeting.

POLICY-like: directed or approved by School Board	PROCEDURE-like: responsibility of Superintendent
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Any reduction in school occupancy (except an immediate, short term shift) ▪ Process and considerations for changing these decisions ▪ Budget and staffing changes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ School day hours and schedule within the school day ▪ Transportation scheduling ▪ School meals – breakfast and lunch ▪ Recess/breaks ▪ Cleaning and disinfection routines ▪ Nursing and health screening ▪ Extra precautions related to specific activities such as music or athletics ▪ Student spacing and PPE required

For the purposes of this document, the following goals are considered:

1. Provide guidance that the school community, including parents, students, staff, and administrators, can rely on with confidence knowing they will have the support of the school Board.
2. Create an environment where as many students as possible physically attend school.
3. Full in-person days, 5 days per week, with full academic and extracurricular offerings.
4. Provide guidance for staff and the community when we would consider further relaxing or tightening precautions.
5. Consider the latest scientific and medical guidance.

This past year has been problematic with many twists, turns, starts, and stops. Fundamentally, what we have learned is that multiple plans and approaches confuse the community and raise anxiety as well as frustration. We need to be clear as to our plans and expectations as we enter the 2021-22 school year.

Current District Data

The data used to inform this recommendation include the diminishing number of students who continue to be remote.

Moharimet is down to 23

Mast Way is down to 57

OR Middle School is down to 58

ORHS is down to 198 (60 are seniors)

Current District Data - continued

Remote learners K-8 continue to decline. High school numbers have been consistent. One major factor contributing to the remote numbers at the high school are related to older students who have taken on jobs and other obligations while remote and are less to do with the pandemic. We anticipate at the start of a new school year these numbers will go down.

Currently, we have 75 homeschool students in the district. Normally we have approximately 60 children homeschooled. We are surveying parents of our home-schooled students to see how many may return to in-school learning.

We had no idea how effective the University's interventions would be related to student COVID mitigation efforts. A vaccination effort, aggressive testing program, comprehensive isolation plan for active COVID cases, and quarantine for those exposed, all contributed to a sense of confidence that UNH took COVID very seriously. Although Durham numbers soared from February to April, it appears most of those cases were associated with UNH. With UNH students gone for the summer, current Durham numbers are the lowest they have been. Assuming UNH follows the same plan in the fall we would feel comfortable running school normally. We did not see any impact of UNH transmission rates on our school community.

Core Recommendation

Given the considerations outlined above, the goal for the 2021-22 school year is to open school in the fall as close to normal as possible.

In-person School Day

We define opening school as "normal as possible" operating in-person 5 days per week per the school Board approved academic calendar. Most, if not all children are in attendance in their classrooms, we will follow a traditional 5-day per week schedule, and the remote learning option is limited to health-related issues. Students who have a documented medical condition and are not able to attend in-person learning will work with the student services department. This will be on an exception basis only. If necessary, remote support may take the form of a combination of partial live synchronous instruction, asynchronous learning, and/or online instruction such as VLACS. Staff and instruction may not be Oyster River personnel and material. We are investigating a possible shared remote model with local districts.

Until children ages 3-11 are vaccinated, which typically represents grades PK-6, it is prudent to maintain a mask mandate, as well as 3-foot distancing in classrooms and 6-foot distancing in cafeterias. Should vaccinations be allowed for this age group we may change this recommendation to reflect the same guidance offered for the high school. In PK-8, mask breaks will continue to be coordinated for students as needed.

Due to the fact the staff and all high school aged students have had the opportunity to be vaccinated, we could consider eliminating the 6-foot social distancing in the cafeteria, and lift mask requirements throughout the school.

Specific Operational Recommendations

School Day

The school day will be 8:45 to 3:15 at the K-4 level and 8:15 to 3:05 at the MS-HS level. The PEP AM session will be M-Th from 8:15 to 10:45 and the PM session will be M-Th from 12:00 to 2:30. The start and end time of the school day is tied to the number of bus drivers we have to transport children. Currently we are down 8 drivers. We may have to continue to rely on parents to transport students which is less than ideal. Typically, our buses transport 80% of PK-4, 60% of MS and less than 40% of HS children.

ORHS Schedule

The ORHS master schedule will be on an A/B block rotation as revised during the pandemic, which allows maximum flexibility in case we have to move to a completely remote model. The master schedule will be built on 2 houses, one for grades 9-10 and one for grades 11-12.

Classroom Social Distancing

Our current recommendation is to continue classroom social distancing at 3 feet. This allows class sizes to return to the levels recommended in district guidelines, and to fully accommodate an all-in return model. Currently, we are using 3-foot social distancing as recommended by the CDC. Depending on CDC and other health guidelines the recommended social distancing may change. Three-foot social distancing allows us to accommodate class sizes in line with our maximum district guidelines.

Managing Breakfast and Lunch Under Current Guidelines

Based on current guidelines breakfast and lunch times should maintain 6-foot social distancing. Note that the lunch schedule impacts the entire instructional day as the number of lunches required increases when social distancing increases. PEP, Mast Way, Moharimet and the Middle School require 6-foot social distancing due to the fact the vaccine is not available yet for 3-11-year-olds.

The master schedule at ORHS can be adjusted to 3-foot social distancing to provide adequate time and space to serve lunch for all 835 students; this would allow 2 lunches and provides more academic time. If we maintain 6-foot social distancing at lunch this would require 4 lunches and reduces academic time.

Managing Recess

At the PK-8 level recess will need to be carefully planned given that there is no vaccine for this age group. At PEP, Mast Way and Moharimet this means keeping numbers manageable on the playground. At the middle school there is limited space due to construction.

Mixed Grade Level Teams at the MS

Middle School Music, PE and World Language will follow the same protocols we have implemented this spring. We will, however, need locations for these programs to occur from October-February. Principal Richard is researching various off-site options for the band and chorus. The High School

and Middle School PE programs will cohabitate using the facilities at the High School. World Language teachers will continue to move to the students in the fall as they do now. Tech Ed and "Shop" will occur on site, socially distanced and masked.

Elementary Music and PE

Elementary music moved back into the classroom this spring. We will continue that model, socially distanced and masked. Limitations on singing would remain in effect. Singing outside is an option. PE is dramatically impacted by the lunch schedule. PE can occur during lunch when the weather permits, but because the gym becomes an extension of the lunchroom, when weather is bad, PE cannot occur if the gym is being used as the lunchroom.

Athletics

A full range of athletic programming for MS and HS is recommended. Individual activities may need to be adjusted to meet health and safety guidelines or NHIAA rules and procedures. We will continue our modified guidelines into the fall unless the pandemic is declared over in which case, we would return to normal pre-pandemic rules.

Large Group Gatherings

Large group school-sponsored gatherings outside of the school day (concerts, sports, events) will be allowed. All spectator attendees of indoor events must wear masks due to the likely variety of ages in attendance. Athletes and performers will follow the same practices as in their classes/practices related to the event.

Visitors

Due to the fact that we have no ability to know who is vaccinated, visitors will be required to answer the ORCSD prescreening questionnaire prior to entering any school building and wear a mask while on school grounds. We will follow our most recent guidelines for outdoor events.

Busing

Capacity on buses will increase to reduce traffic congestion at all schools. Students riding school transportation will wear a mask. Parents have been incredibly cooperative and willing to transport their own children, but this defeats our sustainability goals. As an example, a highly efficient automobile gets about 30 mpg and is generally moving 2-3 passengers equally 60-90 people miles per gallon. A bus with 70 children that gets 11 miles per gallon equates to 770 people miles per gallon. Bus transportation is far more efficient at moving large numbers of passengers than an individual automobile. Buses are also far safer than cars to transport children. The sooner we can return to fully utilizing our buses the better it is for our children and for the environment.

Budget

The pandemic has offered a level of flexibility with the current budget. We have also received federal funds in the form of grants that we do not normally receive; these will be short term. We deliberately controlled spending to an extreme degree the first half of the year. As we enter the 2021-22 school year, we will need to apply the same fiscal discipline we have prior to the pandemic.

Conditions where the School Board would consider reducing restrictions and precautions:

- If the opportunity for vaccination is extended to younger people, precautions described above should be reviewed and further relaxed accordingly.
- If public health agencies declare an end to the COVID 19 pandemic.
- If the number of circulating cases is extremely low, as evidenced by zero new cases in Oyster River towns for at least 2 weeks and fewer than 95 new cases statewide in the last 7 days (corresponds to <1 per 100,000 per day, "Low Risk" per covidactnow.org).
- If the school district obtains the authority from the State to maintain record as to which student and staff are vaccinated and can use that information to manage potential exposure risk.

Conditions where the School Board would consider increasing restrictions and precautions:

- Unable to maintain staffing due to COVID-19 cases.
- Changes in FDA or CDC guidance regarding vaccination limitations (i.e. need for a booster injection or emergence of a variant that renders vaccines ineffective).
- Local active COVID-19 cases rise significantly, in particular if new cases in Durham, Lee, and Madbury exceed 60 in 7 days (corresponding to 25 per 100,000 per day, the "Critical" threshold from covidactnow.org).

COVID Related Challenges to Monitor

Assuming that COVID is still part of our lives in the fall we can predict that some of the same challenges that we faced this school year will re-occur.

- Students in Quarantine (past practices for absences will be used)
- Program closures
- Classroom closures
- School closures
- Individual quarantines
- Athletic program pauses
- Staffing capacity issues
- Contact tracing challenges
- Vaccine availability and changes in quarantine rules
- No close contact quarantine for vaccinated staff and students
- Because we have no way to verify vaccinations truthfulness of reporting will be a challenge

Final Thoughts

Again, the recommendations in this plan are based on the review of current CDC and DHHS Guidance in conjunction with current local and state COVID data as of May 27, 2021. Both organizations continuously update their guidance on a regular basis. This plan should be reviewed at the August 4, 2021 School Board meeting, along with specific details for reopening.