

Oyster River Cooperative School District

Regular Meeting

June 19, 2019

High School

DRAFT

SCHOOL BOARD: Brian Cisneros, Dan Klein, Michael Williams, Al Howland, Denise Day, Kenny Rotner, Tom Newkirk. Student Representative: Yasmeen Gunandar

ADMINISTRATORS: Todd Allen, Jay Richard, Suzanne Filippone, Carrie Vaich, Lisa Huppe, Josh Olstad

There were 9 members of the public present

I. CALL TO ORDER

6:30-7:00 Manifest Review

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Proposed changes/additions:

Move recognition of Mast Way Principal Carrie Vaich and

Architect Report – Safety Report to the beginning of the meeting

Add ½ tech integrator position to the agenda

Letter to the State Representatives/Media

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

Tom Newkirk thanked and commended Carrie Vaich for all her work as Principal at Mast Way for the past seven years. Carrie thanked the Board for their support and praised the District and Administration.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Patty Anderson from Durham shared that she will be attending University of Maine at Orono.

Cheryl Berman from SAU 50 is an elementary world language teacher and gave a briefing on how the program runs. She meets with the students twice a week for forty minutes in the afternoons. She would recommend picking one language for fourth grade and work down. Cheryl is a strong advocate for world language at the elementary level.

Ron LaMarre from Lavallee Bresinger Architects gave a safety overview of the middle school:

Fatalities on school grounds nationwide:

Transportation related 40%
Non-active shooter homicides: 33%
Suicides 10%
Unknown: 8%
Active shooter 5%
Severe winds 2%
Accidents 2%

Making it safer:

CPTED: Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design

Natural surveillance = see and be seen
Landscaping
Glass/Views of the campus
One entrance
Territorial Reinforcement: Define the “sphere of influence”
Maintenance: Provide a safe/clean image
Well-maintained campus projects message of order
Provide preparedness of order

National Crime Prevention Council:

Be safe in school program
Engage local authorities
Define elements of local safety

Ron reported that Friday will be their third meeting with local authorities including members of the police and fire departments as well as the town administrator. Ron presented to the School Board how his design incorporates safety as one of the primary design elements to ensure our students and staff have a safe, healthy and welcoming environment. Due to the traffic patterns students are intermingling with traffic which is dangerous. Our current building has multiple entrances which makes it that much more difficult to monitor. In addition, cars and buses are constantly jockeying for position, never a good thing when discharging students.

Inside safety concerns: The current middle school has inside safety concerns. There are multiple points of entry to the building that make managing outside visitors to the school challenging. There are many ground level windows that are not safety glass in front and back of the building. Access to the building is challenging due to handicap accessibility issues. Due to the sprawling nature of the building, there is poor corridor visibility throughout the building. Air quality is poor due to inadequate ventilations. Ron reviewed proposed features that would be added into the proposed middle school.

See and be seen: Strategic use of glass

Glass from classroom to common area

Reduces bullying

Changes behavior/work ethic

Spatial interconnectivity

Encourage collaboration

Celebrates learning/student work

Conversely:

Glass from classroom to common area

Can create distraction without blinds and/or proper seating arrangements

Can create lockdown views into classrooms

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion to approve 6/05/19 Regular meeting minutes:

Brian Cisneros moved to approve the June 5th regular meeting minutes, 2nd by Denise Day. Motion passed 7-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS, COMMENDATIONS and COMMENTS:

A. District: None

B. Board: Brian Cisneros attended his sons step up day from Mast Way to the Middle School. Brian Cisneros also thanked Carrie Vaich for everything she has accomplished and wished her the best of luck in the future.

Tom Newkirk mentioned the passing of Petar Stoykovich, a math teacher for over thirty years at the high school.

Kenny Rotner reported that the the Orchard Drive property received their first grant and have also received many donations. They have gotten approval for trails from the Faculty neighborhood to Doe Farm and he thanked the School Board for giving the community this opportunity.

Superintendent Morse talked about the “Learn Everywhere Program”. It passed 4-3 last week which would outsource classes in New Hampshire public high schools to private and nonprofit organizations that apply directly to and are approved by the State Board of Education. The Superintendents Association and the Principals Association are all against it. It does take away from local schools.

VI. DISTRICT REPORTS

A. Assistant Superintendent/Curriculum and Instruction Report:

Word Language Update: Todd Allen/Jay Richard:

In January 2019 the OR School Board authorized the creation of a committee to examine the World Language program in the school district. The committee was asked to make recommendations on the possibility of adding a K-5 program.

The Committee’s Progress to date:

The committee has met regularly starting in February 2019

The committee has reviewed a wide range of research

Developed a community survey about K-4 World Language options

Reviewed master schedules at Mast Way, Moharimet, and the middle school as well as multiple other schools with K-4 World Language programs

Two schools visits have be conducted in Rye and Keene

Additional school visits are planned for the fall

Plans for 5th Grade students taking Chinese in 2019/20:

For 2019-20 there are ten 5th grade students who will be continuing with Chinese study at ORMS. In order to accommodate this need, Principal Richard has worked with the families of these students to determine the best manner of scheduling the experience. The plan for the fall is to schedule Chinese instruction in fifth grade three times a week during Bobcat Time starting on October 1st. By doing it this way, the students are given the first month of school to transition to a new school and can access supports in other subject areas two days a week.

Their next meeting is in August. He reviewed the proposed K-4 World Language Survey with the Board. Todd also mentioned that Oyster River elementary school day hours are among the shortest that they have found.

Denise Day encouraged them to include the MS parents in this survey as well. Kenny Rotner is a strong advocate for the World Language program for the elementary school. He thinks that the survey context needs to be reworded and that links should be provided to educate and inform parents.

Tom Newkirk and Al Howland both feel that a question needs to be framed in the survey that asks if they want World Language if it means something else would be cut.

B. Superintendent:

Tech integrator at the high school: Superintendent Morse is asking for permission to hire a half-time Tech Integrator. The Board has been discussing this need for quite some time.

Al Howland moved to approve the hiring of a half-time Tech Integrator at the High School, 2nd by Brian Cisneros. Motion passed 7-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

Request for Student Moving to Newmarket to remain for Senior Year: Kenny Rotner moved to allow the student to remain at Oyster River for senior year, 2nd by Denise Day. Motion passed 7-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

Superintendent Morse mentioned that the Silent Movie at the Music Hall was simply amazing and inspiring last weekend. The Band performed to the movie which highlighted their trip to China and the students studying Chinese narrated. It was very well done.

Acknowledgement of 2019 retirees in the District:

Paul Byron	High School Custodian	19 years
Barbara Kester	High School SpEd Paraprofessional	5 years
Linda Rief	Middle School Language Arts	38 years
Eileen Moran	Middle School Nurse	23 years
Janice O'Brien	Middle School Speech Language	21 years
Pamela Mahokin	Middle School Paraprofessional	21 years
Alexa Grout	Middle School Special Ed	15 years

Brenda Tirrell	Mast Way Counselor	17 years
June Paradis	SAU Accounts Payable	31 years
Deb Poulin	Facilities Secretary	21 years

Denise Day moved to approve Melissa Jean as the Interim Assistant Director of Special Services, 2nd by Brian Cisneros. Motion passed 7-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

Denise Day moved to approve Sean Fonteyne as a World Language Teacher, 2nd by Michael Williams. Motion passed 7-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

MS Grading Systems:

The Board charges the Superintendent to create a committee to assess the effectiveness of the current middle school progress reporting system and if necessary to make recommendations for changes. The committee should be composed of parents, teachers, and students. Using survey and focus group tools, the committee will seek out the views of students, parents, and teachers on issues that include, but are not limited to:

The clarity and precision of the system.

The effect of the system on student motivation.

The transition from middle school to the high school system.

The committee will complete its work and have a report to the Board by May 2020. The Board will support the use of the current budget regarding this.

The Board had an in depth conversation on evaluating this system and building a communications plan.

Denise Day moved the question, 2nd by Brian Cisneros. Denise Day withdrew her motion.

Denise Day moved to approve the charge as written, 2nd by Brian Cisneros. Motion passed 6-1 with Michael Williams opposing.

C. Business Administrator:

Copier Lease:

Sue Caswell explained that the District is coming to the end of our lease for our copiers/printers in the District. The new proposal we are recommending is with Canon for 39 copiers and 15 printers, maintenance and supplies. As a member of National IPA, we are using their Prebid contract for their lease. It would be a five year lease with no increases on per copy costs. Josh Olstad has met with each of the principals and reviewed their needs to right size the machines in each building.

Denise Day moved to approve the copier lease as presented above, 2nd by Brian Cisneros. Motion passed 6-0-1 with Kenny Rotner abstaining.

Van Replacement:

Sue Caswell detailed that the increase in the need for specialized transportation has made it difficult to cover the needs of the District.

\$42,953.76 for four years

The Board will vote on this proposal at the July 10th meeting.

Budget Update:

Sue Caswell reported that everything with the budget is on track.

D. Student Senate Report:

Student Representative Yasmeeen Gunundar gave an update of the activities and events happening at the high school. Today was the last day of school and everyone is looking forward to the summer. Suzanne Filippone, Principal of the High School, detailed the high school student parking permit policy. They have added a category of carpooling for students as a category when applying for a student parking permit.

E. Other: None

VII. DISCUSSION ITEM

Communication Plan: Will be on the July 10th agenda

Letters to State and House Representatives and to News Media: Michael Williams presented the letters he crafted asking for support of the education funding level initially approved by the House of Representatives in HB 1 in the conference process to finalize the state budget.

Tom Newkirk moved to approve the letters to State Representatives and to the News Media, 2nd by Michael Williams. Motion passed 7-0.

VIII. ACTIONS:

A. SUPERINTENDENT: None

B. BOARD ACTION ITEMS:

Denise Day moved to authorize the Superintendent to offer contracts to qualified teachers and staff during the summer months, 2nd by Brian Cisneros. Motion passed 7-0.

Denise Day moved to approve ORHS Speech Pathologist, 2nd by Brian Cisneros. Motion passed 7-0.

Denise Day moved to approve data Governance Plan for second read/approval, 2nd by Brian Cisneros. Motion passed 7-0.

Policies for First Read:

KF Facilities

Revision: Page 2 Move the sentence “Superintendent or designee may grant waivers....” to the end of the paragraph.

Denise Day moved to approve KF Facilities for a first reading with the above revision, 2nd by Brian Cisneros. Motion passed 7-0.

Policy IJL

Revision: Page 4 remove “up to”

Tom suggested defining the numbers of teachers on this committee and to include a member of the school board.

Denise Day moved to approve Policy IJL for a first reading with the above revision, 2nd by Brian Cisneros. Motion passed 7-0.

IX. SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE UPDATES:

A. Manifest Committee

The Manifest Committee met to sign and approve the following manifest.
Vendor Manifest #28: \$280,803.15

Tom Newkirk reported that the Negotiating Team has met three times since the last meeting and has made good progress. Their next meeting is July 8th.

X. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Dean Rubine of Lee congratulated the Board and the District on a great school year.

XI. CLOSING ACTIONS:

- A. Future Meeting Dates: July 10th Regular meeting at the High School
July 24th Manifest Meeting SAU Conference Rm

XII. NON-PUBLIC SESSION: RSA 91-A:3 II (a) - Personnel Matter

Kenny Rotner moved to enter into nonpublic session at 9:45 p.m. under RSA 91-A: II (a), 2nd by Denise Day. Upon roll call vote, the motion passed 7-0.

The Board returned to public session at 9:50 PM, **Denise Day moved that the District's annual contribution to Superintendent Morse's annuity be increased from \$2,000 to \$5,000. There was a second by Brian Cisneros. The motion passed 7-0.**

Allan Howland made a motion to adjourn at 9:55 p.m., 2nd by Brian Cisneros. The motion passed 7-0.

Respectfully yours,
Laura Grasso Dobson
Recording Secretary