

# Oyster River Cooperative School District

## Regular Meeting Minutes

October 21, 2020

DRAFT

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

**Student Representative:** Megan Deane

**ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:** James Morse, Todd Allen, Sue Caswell, Suzanne Filippone, Jay Richard, Misty Lowe, David Goldsmith, William Sullivan, Catherine Plourde

**STAFF PRESENT:** Mark Milliken, Mike McCann, Kim Felch, Lisa Huppe

### **GUEST PRESENT:**

There were 10 members in the audience.

### **CALLED TO ORDER at 7:00 PM by Tom Newkirk**

Tom welcomed Megan Deane the new student representative to the Board meeting and stated that he looks forward to working with her. Megan introduced herself and stated that she is a senior and looks forward to being the student representative to the Board.

Tom Newkirk then stated that he had two changes to the agenda, the first being that he would like to re-add in the Student Senate Report. Secondly, Michael Williams wanted to add a resolution for NHSBA. He also added that he wanted to make the order of tonight's presentation be the survey, elementary, middle then high school presentations

There were no additional changes suggested.

### **II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

**Dan Klein moved to approve the agenda as amended, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Brian Cisneros. Motion passed with a vote of 7-0.**

At this time Tom introduced public comment.

### **III. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Loren Selig of Durham commented on ORTV being up and running. She commended the School Board for the work they have been doing. She stated the discrepancy of the workload between high school and middle school that high school looks like a normal workload, but middle school runs 9 – 1 and then independent work. Not comfortable with having her children returning to school and hopes we continue to put safety first.

Jill Papero urged the School Board to return students to school if parents choose to send them. She reported to the Board the number of current COVID cases in the towns of Oyster River as reported by the State.

Melissa Veroneau stated that she sent an email to the Board outlining her sentiments and hope that the Board would enact an immediate Hybrid model at the middle school and implement Wednesdays.

Michelle Dunbar of Madbury agrees that the choice to send students to school should be the parents if that is what they want. Concerned about SEL, social isolation, too much screen time and wants to be an advocate for students.

Katherine Fagan has middle school students and urges the Board to move forward with a more in person model. The Strafford County numbers are minimal. Give the parents the choice to send their children to school.

Alyson Jumper of Durham and has 3 children in schools. She wants to advocate for an immediate implementation of an in person learning option for the middle school. She thanked everyone for their hard work.

Christine Conlin thanked the Board for allowing her to speak. She is a strong advocate for getting students back to school. She stated leaving students alone to their own devices is not a healthy environment. She shared that pediatricians are receiving more calls for anxiety and is concerned for children.

There were no additional public comments.

#### **IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

##### **Motion to approve the October 7, 2020 meeting minutes: Revisions:**

Tom asked the Board if any revisions to the minutes were forwarded to Wendy. Michael Williams stated that he had a correction to the vote on page 7 it should be 5-0-2, and also suggested that we remove Non-Public and Non-Meeting as they did not happen at this meeting.

**Michael Williams moved to approve the October 7, 2020 meeting minutes as amended, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Denise Day. Motion passed with a vote of 7-0. Student Representative abstaining.**

#### **~~V. ANNOUNCEMENTS, COMMENDATIONS AND COMMENTS:~~**

**~~A. District:~~**

**~~B. Board:~~**

#### **VI. UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGENDA:**

#### **VII. DISTRICT REPORTS:**

**~~A. Assistant Superintendent Reports:~~**

**~~B. Superintendent's Report:~~**

**~~C. Finance Committee Update:~~**

**D. Business Administrator:**

Barrington Tuition Agreement

Sue Caswell presented her memo for the rates for the 2021/22 school year for the Barrington tuition students as \$18,330 which is up by 3.91%. She asked the Board if they had any questions pertaining to her memo.

There was a questions asked why this was so high and Sue explained the calculations that were used to obtain this amount.

**Brian Cisneros made a motion to approve the 2021-22 Barrington Tuition rate at \$18,330, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dan Klein. Motion passed with a vote of 7-0.**

At this time Superintendent Morse introduced the next portion of the meeting.

Tom Newkirk interrupted Dr. Morse to have the Student Representative give her update to the Board.

#### **D. Student Senate Report:**

Megan Deane expressed concern that remote learning is not ideal, but students are adapting. There is concern about safety. Megan answered a Board question about clubs. Megan stated that sports are having the most success, but there are clubs that are meeting remotely and depends on teacher involved. They are still trying to navigate, there are schedule conflicts and some clubs are not happening, but students are being active.

Tom thanked Megan for her report and turned the meeting back over to Dr. Morse.

#### **~~F. Other:~~**

Dr Morse commended the Board, the administrators, teachers, and support staff for their tireless efforts during this pandemic. He also thanked the parents and guardians, and students who have written hundreds of emails and filled out multiple surveys. He reviewed the principles that drove the decision making: health and safety is the primary issue, science-based decisions of mask wearing, 6foot distancing, hygienic procedures, continuous thorough building cleaning, bus cleaning between runs and limited ridership of 27 students by the window which is slightly open. He spoke of the MOA's with each of the unions and the rigorous implementation by the district nurses of CDC supported protocols.

Dr Morse spoke on the survey sent to parents that showed that last spring was not as productive as it could have been. Survey results found that asynchronous learning was not effective, that more student teacher contact was wanted, and that a predictable school day schedule was needed. Teachers wanted a model that supports accountability, and they wanted regular contact with students. As a district we redesigned the master schedule at all schools. He also stated that parents, teachers and support staff requested more technology to support remote instruction. He stated that the district will have one to one computer distribution by Thanksgiving.

Dr Morse spoke of consideration for alternatives to traditional schools with three basic models: Modified traditional, modified remote and a variation of the hybrid. He went on to explain some of the impact to the current adopted models. Dr. Morse spoke about how well the testing being done by UNH has gone. He stated that we are coming into the cold and flu season as well as the holidays and the implication to traveling outside of New England. His concern was that UNH families with many children in the schools and they travel will require a 14 day quarantine.

Dr Morse stated that regardless of the model chosen, there is more work to be done to improve the remote model. We need to increase the number of children coming in for help, we need to do more to support social emotional learning and mental health, and we need to create enrichment and socialization opportunities for our teenagers. In order to accomplish this, we need to have staff working from the buildings.

Dr Morse turned the podium over to Todd Allen, Assistant Superintendent re talk about the survey.

Todd Allen thanked Michael and Yusi for their assistance in combining the data into this power point with graphs showing the survey results. He went on to say that he sent the link to the raw data to Board. He explained that the survey closed at the end of the day on Monday. He also noted that there is a copy of one slide in your folder that was not in the information original sent to you but is included in the power point that is being shared right now. This power point will also be posted to the website tomorrow. Todd reviewed the individual slides that were presented and asked the Board if there were any questions.

The Board asked that in the future the actual numbers be included in the presentation, asked to clarify how the results are being presented in the power point, that it seemed that the remote part of the hybrid program was a comparison between apples and oranges, discussion surrounding technology support, training of parents for schoology as the need is greater due to remote learning.

The Board noted that there seems to be three take a ways from this survey.

Todd stated that the elementary model meets the request parents are asking for, that people appreciate the communication and that the technology structure is working and teachers are learning to teach in a different way.

The Board had a discussion surrounding the comments that were seen repeatedly in the survey and thanked everyone that took the time to fill it out.

## **VIII. DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

### School Reevaluation Model – Next Steps - Elementary

Tom Newkirk moved the meeting to the elementary presentation and invited both Misty Lowe, Mast Way Principal and David Goldsmith, Moharimet Principal to the podium.

David began by stating that he will address the questions asked at the workshop for the elementary schools and began the presentation.

AM/PM Sessions on Wednesday.

Structure:

- Regular AM/PM Hybrid Sessions
- Wednesday Work Continues for all students
- Teachers continue with Meetings/PD/Planning

Student Experience.

- Regular hybrid school day
- General Education Paraeducators staff classrooms
- Spec. Ed. Paraeducators support their students
- Nutrition Services continue as usual
- No “live” Encore/UA
- Students complete “Wednesday Work”
- Outside time / SEL activities by class

Impacts.

- Principal/Nurse needed for students  
Not available for most Wed. meetings
- Duty schedule for arrival/dismissal needs additional staffing while paraeducators are in classrooms
- Teaching staff must be remote to clear space for students
- Current paraeducator remote student supports would end
- Workroom & Library work would end
- Transportation impacts across district

Needs.

- Hiring additional Paraeducators/Substitutes will be necessary to support teachers

6 @ MOH      8 @ MW

Contract out coverage for entire day: Community organizations

Extending Time on Hybrid Days.

We do not know how to make this happen with Covid Health Restrictions.

- 6 ft distancing requires 12 or fewer students in a classroom
- Extending the AM later or the PM earlier would create overlap  
Becomes "All-In" which violates 6ft distancing
- Overlap impacts service schedule: remote and in-person
- Extending the Day?
- Transportation limitations
- Change to A/B Day adds 2 hours to weekly hour total but requires lunch & recess, changes home routines, and creates 2 or 3 days of asynchronous, remote school.

The Board asked for clarification of the hiring of an additional 6 and 8 para-educator/substitutes and at what cost to the district. What is the balance of the sub line at this time? If Wednesday's are added what is the gain. Concerns with the upcoming holiday season and if this is the appropriate time to make changes. Can we support families in need and during a quarantine? Can we use volunteers or emergency funds? The need to have a conversation with the Guild and get the teachers perspective and input. What is the next step?

**Brian Cisneros made a motion for Mast Way and Moharimet to continue with the current program but reach out to families if they want to switch their current choice up until capacity, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dan Klein. Motion passed with a vote of 7-0 with student representative in agreement.**

Dan Klein asked if this option hinders us from going fully remote if necessary. He was reassured it would not.

At 9:00 PM Tom Newkirk called for a five-minute break.

The meeting resumed at 9:05 with the Middle School Presentation.

School Reevaluation Model – Next Steps - Middle School

Jay Richard introduced himself and Bill Sullivan and began by asking parents that if their child was having difficulties to please get in touch with him. He then started his presentation with the slide that shows 5 options and explained that Option 1 is the current model.

	Option 1: <b>Current Model</b> Remote Learning with Targeted Learners	Option 2: Hybrid 1 Model	Option 3: Hybrid 2 Model	Option 4: Hybrid 3 Model	Option 5: AM/PM Model
<b>Students at School</b>	Enhanced Targeted Learners	1 Full Day Per Week	2 Full Days Per Week	2 Full Days Per Week	4 1/2 Days Per Week
<b>% of Students in Bldg. per day</b>	10%-30%	25%	Up to 50%	50%	50%
<b>Asynchronous (both remote &amp; in person learners)</b>	.5-1 day per week	1 Full Day Per Week	2 Full Days Per Week	2 Full Days Per Week	4 1/2 Days Per Week
<b>Wednesdays</b>	Targeted Learning 5-8	Targeted Learning 5-8	Targeted Learning 5-8	Targeted Learning 5-8	Targeted Learning 5-8
<b>Change in Schedule needed</b>	Same, maybe change Grade 5 to different day.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Direct Student/Teacher time both remote &amp; in person learners</b>	4 days per week	Decrease to 3 days/week	Decrease to 2 days/week	Decrease to 2 days/week	Decrease to 2 days/week
<b>Academic Day</b>	9am-2:30pm – 4 days	9am-2:30pm – 3 days	9am-2:30pm – 2 days	9am-2:30pm – 2 days	Decrease From 4.5 hours to 2.25 hours
<b>Re-Assignment of Remote Students</b>	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Re-Assignment of Remote Teachers</b>	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Ability to Switch to Remote Learning Schedule</b>	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
<b>Burden on Transportation</b>	Same	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Built in Teacher Planning Time</b>	Yes	Yes	Unknown	Yes	No
<b>Allows for SEL/Enrichment Activities (Clubs)</b>	Yes	Yes	Maybe	Maybe	No
<b>Changes in Powerschool/Schoolology</b>	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
<b>Disruption on related services, UA, Music</b>	None	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Option 1 – Example Grade 6 (Whole School Schedule as well) Current Model

**Monday-**

- Remote/Synchronous learning for All students
- Small group targeted learners at school following remote schedule

**Tuesday-**

- Remote/Synchronous learning for All students
- Small group targeted learners at school following remote schedule

**Wednesday-**

- MTSS Targeted Learners: In School working with team teachers
- Other Learners: Asynchronous/Office Hours Remote
- Teachers: In School

**Thursday-**

- Remote/Synchronous learning for All students
- Small group targeted learners at school following remote schedule

**Friday-**

- Remote/Synchronous learning for All students
- Small group targeted learners at school following remote schedule

Option1 Grade 6 Current Model Schedule

**Student (In-School AND Remote)**

9:00-9:25 Attendance/Advisory  
 9:30-11:00 Core classes  
 11:15-11:45 Bobcat/Music  
 11:45-12:45 Lunch  
 12:45-1:45 WL/UA  
 1:45-2:30 Office Hours  
 2:30-3:00 Extra Curricular Activities  
 (clubs, social groups, SEL)

**Teacher Schedule**

8:10-8:55 Team Meeting  
 9:00-9:25 Attendance/Advisory  
 9:30-11:00 Core classes  
 11:15-11:45 Bobcat  
 11:45-12:45 Lunch  
 12:45-1:45 Plan  
 1:45-2:30 Office Hours  
 2:30-3:00 Extra Curricular Activities  
 (clubs, social groups, SEL)

Option 2 Example Grade 6 Explorers Team

**Monday-**

- Students A-K: In School
- Students L-Z: Asynchronous/Remote
- Teachers: In School

**Tuesday-**

- Students L-Z: In School
- Students A-K: Asynchronous/Remote
- Teachers: In School

**Wednesday-**

- MTSS Targeted Learners: In School
- Other Learners: Asynchronous/Office Hours Remote
- Teachers: In School

**Thursday-**

- Remote Learning – current model
- Teachers: Remote

**Friday-**

- Remote Learning – current model
- Teachers: Remote

Option 2 Grade 6 Schedule – Mondays in person students A-K, Asynchronous L-Z

<u>In Person Student</u>	<u>Remote Student</u>	<u>Teacher Schedule</u>	<u>Asynchronous Students</u>
8:00-8:15 Attendance	8:00-8:15 Attendance	8:00-8:15 Attendance	
8:15-9:15 Core 1	8:15-9:15 Core 1	8:15-9:15 Core 1	
9:15-10:15 Core 2	9:15-10:15 Core 2	9:15-10:15 Core 2	9:15-9:45 Music Lesson
10:15-11:15 Core 3	10:15-11:15 Core 3	10:15-11:15 Core 3	9:45-11:15 Asynchronous Work
11:15-12:00 Lunch	11:15-12:00 Lunch	11:15-12:00 Lunch	11:15-12:00 Lunch
12:00-1:00 Core 4	12:00-1:00 Core 4	12:00-1:00 Core 4	12:00-1:00 Asynchronous Work
1:00-2:00 UA	1:00-2:00 UA	1:00-2:00 Plan Time	1:00-2:00 WL
2:00-2:30 Enrichment	2:00-2:30 Enrichment	2:00-2:30 Enrichment	2:00-2:30 Asynchronous Work
2:30- Dismissal		2:30-3:15 Office Hours	2:30-3:15 Office hours

- 3 Sections of in person students, 1 section of remote students
- Remote/In Person Teachers have same schedule

## Option 2 Whole School Schedule

### **Mondays:**

- In Person/Remote Learners: Grade 5 & 6 Last Name A-K, 8:15-2:30
- Asynchronous Learners: Grade 5 & 6 Last Name L-Z, 9:15-3:15
- Synchronous Remote Learning: Grade 7 & 8
- Small Group Targeted Learners In-School: Grade 7 & 8

### **Tuesdays:**

- In Person/Remote Learners: Grade 5 & 6 Last Name L-Z, 8:15-2:30
- Asynchronous Learners: Grade 5 & 6 Last Name A-K, 9:15-3:15
- Synchronous Remote Learning: Grade 7 & 8
- Small Group Targeted Learners In-School: Grade 7 & 8

### **Wednesdays:**

- MTSS Targeted Learners Grades 5-8

### **Thursdays:**

- In Person/Remote Learners: Grade 7 & 8 Last Name A-K, 8:15-2:30
- Asynchronous Learners: Grade 7 & 8 Last Name L-Z, 9:15-3:15
- Synchronous Remote Learning: Grade 5 & 6
- Small Group Targeted Learners In-School: Grade 5 & 6

### **Fridays:**

- In Person/Remote Learners: Grade 7 & 8 Last Name L-Z, 8:15-2:30
- Asynchronous Learners: Grade 7 & 8 Last Name A-K, 9:15-3:15
- Synchronous Remote Learning: Grade 5 & 6
- Small Group Targeted Learners In-School: 5 & 6

The Board had a lengthy discussion surrounding the middle school options and asked clarifying questions pertaining to the individual options presented. Some concerns were to look at increasing targeted learners in the building, the number of students currently coming into the building. Are there any clubs operating during this time, what constitutes remote in option 2, if the current team model will remain? The student representative suggested polling the middle school students for their input. It was discussed that transportation is a key area in schedule adjustments for schools.

Tom asked the Board how they wished to move forward with the middle school for a decision at the November 4, 2020 meeting?

It was determined that Jay and Bill will work on enhancing the current model, look at option 5 and rework option 2 so each grade has one full day per week.

Tom Newkirk asked for a 5-minute recess at 10:03 PM.

Tom Newkirk opened the meeting at 10:07 PM by inviting Suzanne Filippone, high school principal to begin her presentation.

Suzanne began her presentation by informing the Board that she will be showing them 2 additional models and reviewed the five models/phases that she presented at the workshop.

### All Models:

- Faculty certification and areas of expertise
- Classrooms are set up for 6 feet of social distancing (approximately 10 students/room)
  - \*Maximum capacity is 50% of the student body by alphabet not by class
  - \*Lunchroom can accommodate 95 students spaced appropriately



- Teachers cannot teach face to face and remotely at the same time
- Spaces and furniture must be cleaned regularly
- Bathrooms have stalls blocked due to social distancing (limiting capacity) and are closed during passing times
- All students and staff must wear a mask
- All students and adults will complete the pre-screening questionnaire prior to arriving ORHS.
  - \*If you have traveled outside of NE quarantine is necessary.
  - \*Any symptoms must be reported to Health Office and individual is not to come to school.

Suzanne provided the current model slide that have targeted learners coming into the building. Approximately 60 per day. She also provide a sample student schedule that would have remote learners and targeted learners coming into the building and they would have classes 4 days a week for a total of 160 minutes per class plus time on Wednesday to meet with teachers.

She provided an overview of what happens on Wednesdays:

8:15 – 12:15

Relearning, Reassessment, Advisory, Clubs, Meetings for IEP & 504 when necessary, Related Services

1:30 – 3:15

Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment, Technology Support, Student Meetings, Meetings for IEP & 504, Professional Development, Department Meetings, Committee Meetings, Faculty Collaboration

Suzanne reviewed the current model and explained the driving reasons for change: students struggling academically, more peer to peer connection, and students connecting with teachers.

- Goal to expand in person learning and student access to supports in the building
- Bringing in more staff means we could enhance our current model and get more kids into the building.
- What are kids saying about the current model?

Suzanne reviewed the results from the student survey about remote learning and resulted in the following narrative responses:

- What is working well: **Wednesdays**, independence, increased ability to work at own pace, sleeping more, synchronous time, and **teachers are available outside of class time**. Our students appreciate our teachers and all the work they are doing.
- Frequently Identified Challenges: **Amount of work and screen time**, organization, communication, motivation, staying focused, and paying attention.
- Suggested changes: **Less synchronous time, reduce pace and amount of work**, allowing for some in school time, more clear communication from teachers and consistent organization within Schoology, helping us with organization, and understanding that we still have activities outside of school.
- In the open response kids talk about missing their peers and social interactions with each other. Some kids talk about not returning too quickly while others talk about wanting to return right away.

Suzanne reviewed the parent survey results of the 646 participants to learn about parental comfort with bringing students into the building to help in building models.

At this point Suzanne presented the Afternoon Model that she created which will enhance contact time, does not impact academics negatively and responds to student requests. It will provide 140 minutes per week peer class, plus supports offered during the SEL Period. Teachers are planning for one mode of instructions for all kids. However, special education and CTE are impacted by this model.

Suzanne provided a slide for What Happens in the Afternoon where all students begin by reporting to their advisory where they sign up for sessions and one “afterschool” session if they are staying for the late bus.

- Academic In Person Supports (Teachers support learners in person with small group lessons, reassessments, and)
- Skill Remediation Opportunities
- Study Skills
- Enrichment
- Socialization
- College Application Support
- Course Selection & 4 Year Planning
- Career and College Readiness
- Digital Footprint and Digital Citizenship
- Signs of Suicide Programing
- Bystander Training

Time to be together, smile, and laugh

Suzanne presented a 50% Model for ORHS students (Two Days per Week)

- Large cohort of 50%
- Limited contact tracing
- Students moving with a bell schedule
- A single case may cause school to return home for remote learning

Teachers are planning for multiple modes of instruction for different groups of kids.

Spec. Education and CTE are impacted by this model.

Suzanne presented a sample schedule for the 50% model for an in-person student. This model would have students coming to the building with this model and have 40 minutes of face to face class time. This model reduces 40 minutes of class time.

Suzanne then presented the same 50% model for remote students. Students who do not come to the building would have 80 minutes of class time per week. They would likely not have access to their teachers on Thursday and Friday, as teachers will be teaching in person students. Reducing 80 minutes of class time.

Suzanne did a comparison to other area high schools as well as an update on the high school Covid -19 data as of October 14, 2020. Exeter, Somersworth, and Dover are remote. Rochester, Newmarket, and Epping are in school.

The Board asked Suzanne some clarifying questions and asked her to move forward with the afternoon model with faculty input.

The Board discussed the possible re-opening of the existing MOA, the possibility of creating a medical advisory board, and the current number of staff out for health reasons.

Catherine Plourde advised the Board to engage the school nursing staff if they move forward with a medical advisory board as they are extremely knowledgeable and keep current with all CDC and DHHS guidelines.

Tom Newkirk asked Michael Williams to advise the Board on the NHSBA Resolution that he has written.

## **IX. ACTIONS**

### **~~A. Superintendent Actions:~~**

### **B. Board Action Items:**

#### **Discussion:**

## **~~X. SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE UPDATES:~~**

### **A. Manifests Reviewed and Approved by Manifest Committee:**

Denise Day and Dan Klein reviewed the manifests.

Payroll Manifest #

Vendor Manifest # 9 \$168,184.39

## **XI. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Jonathan Bromley, ORHS Teacher, parent, and member of task force appreciated the collaboration with the faculty and the feedback. He expressed the challenges and success that he and other staff members are facing during this pandemic and thanked the Board for all that they have done and continue to do.

## **XII. CLOSING ACTIONS:**

A. Future Meeting Date: 10/29/20 – Budget Workshop – ORHS Auditorium 8:00 – 1:00

11/4/20 – Regular Meeting – ORHS Auditorium

11/18/20 – Regular Meeting – ORHS Auditorium

## **~~XIII. NON-PUBLIC SESSION RSA 91-A:3 {if needed}~~**

~~—NON-MEETING SESSION: RSA 91-A:2 {if needed}~~

## **XIV. ADJOURNMENT:**

**Brian Cisneros made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:15 p.m., 2<sup>nd</sup> by Al Howland.**

**Motion passed with a vote of 7-0.**

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