

**Oyster River Cooperative School District**

**Regular Meeting**

**December 6, 2017**

**ORHS Library**

**7:00 p.m.**

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

**Student Representative:** H.J. Wilson

**ADMINISTRATORS:** Sue Caswell, Todd Allen, Superintendent Morse, Jay Richard, Jim Roczyki, and Carrie Vaich

There were 35 members of the public present.

**I. CALL TO ORDER:** By Tom Newkirk at 7:00 p.m.

**Ia. PUBLIC HEARING: Building Infrastructure Energy Lease Options with Siemens:**

**Kenny Rotner moved to open the Public Hearing on building infrastructure energy lease options with Siemens, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Al Howland. Motion passed 7-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.**

William Hall of Durham talked about the lighting. There are very favorable rebates from Public Service. 12-14% payback per year is great with anything over 10% being a good deal. He is suggesting doing one room first to see what the lighting looks like but is glad that they are looking at it.

Dean Rubine of Lee spoke and thinks that the voters should approve this.

Superintendent Morse reported that leasing is an option available under law as an alternative to bonding. The interest rate is lower and there is rebates available. The initial proposal was 7.2 million over 15 years. The board felt we needed to scale that back. They are focusing on lighting and windows. The windows at Mast Way and Moharimet are due to be replaced.

**Kenny Rotner moved to close the public hearing, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Al Howland. Motion passed 7-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.**

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

**Denise Day moved to approve the agenda with the revision to move up the Student Representative's report, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dan Klein. Motion passed 7-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.**

## **III. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Leslie Ayers, a World Language teacher at the high school, asked the Board to consider adding a position at the middle school to help their program grow. They feel that studying other nearby Districts would help them. Smaller class sizes, no larger than 15 students, are necessary. The world language teachers at the high schools are overburdened with too many students. It is a great feat to find quality world language teachers.

Yusi Turell updated the Board on the After School Mandarin Program. The elementary school program is going very well. There are 55 students enrolled. The partnership with the Confucius Institute remains strong. There is interest for the world language program for younger students. She encouraged the Board to explore the feasibility of hiring a fifth-grade world language teacher.

William Hall of Durham spoke regarding a football program in the District. His success of playing football has served him very well. He doesn't think that football is anymore detrimental than hockey.

Robert Barth of Lee spoke regarding football. Robert and his wife Maria were threatened on the ORCSD cross school committee site. He feels that it was setting a terrible example. He is proposing that the Board sponsor a symposium for the public at the high school presenting scientists in the field as well as people presenting the positives of such a possibility of football in the District.

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

**Brian Cisneros moved to approve the 11/15/17 regular minutes, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Michael Williams.**

Revision: Replace Kenny Rotner's statement recusing himself from any football discussion. This paragraph will be drafted, and the minutes approved at the next Board meeting.

The Board had a discussion on putting word for word public comments into the Board's minutes. Brian and Michael both noted that we have the video to go back to for more information. Kenny Rotner feels that if someone submits something than in fairness and accuracy it should be documented.

The Board decided to maintain the current practice in which public comments get summarized.

**Non-public Minutes: Denise Day moved to approve the nonpublic meeting minutes of 11/15/17, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dan Klein.**

**Revision: The second on the motion to enter into nonpublic minutes should be Dan Klein. The motion with the revision passed 7-0.**

**APPROVAL OF MANIFESTS:**

Payroll #11: \$919,936.61

Vendor Manifest: #11 \$613,224.09

**Student Senate Report:**

The Student Representative reported that all four grades are working together on a snowball semi-formal. The junior class is having candy cane grams right now, this is a good fund raiser for them. Visiting author Kate Messner came to the high school. She was a great speaker and captured the audience and offered research tips for students doing the National History Day Contest. They made the top fourteen schools in the Granite State Challenge. The hockey team went to Martha's Vineyard this weekend for a tournament.

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

**A. District:** None

**B. Board:** Brian Cisneros saw the 3 and 4 grade chorus today and Pam Felber did a great job integrating dance and art into it as well. The kids really enjoyed it as well.

Kenny Rotner clarified an issue of the UNH proposal to charge parents who are going to Oyster River School District that live in Forest Park. The students who live in Forest Park and come to the school district were counted as Durham students in the funding formula. They ran the numbers on what Durham's responsibility to the school with the Forest Park students and without the students. The residents of Durham were not subsidizing the students.

Denise Day is concerned that these families could not afford the tuition. It is something to keep in mind. The coding camp is coming to Moharimet and Mast Way. She is impressed with the variety of opportunities that are being offered in the schools.

Superintendent Morse emphasized that Oyster River is not a participant in the agreement with the Forest Park students. This is between UNH and Durham.

## **VI. DISTRICT REPORTS:**

### **A. Assistant Superintendent/Curriculum and Instruction Report:**

Todd Allen explained the expanded early college opportunities for students at UNH. They have also implemented opportunities with Project Running Start and courses at the community college. The opportunities for kids to get college credit is very exciting.

### **Physical Education Curriculum Update:**

John Morin, Don Maynard, and Victoria Ficker presented the Board with the Physical Education Curriculum Update:

The Department is now known as Exercise, Physiology and Wellness. The Exercise Physiology and Wellness Department now have the freshman students all year. They have a chance to be physically active every day. The freshman have personal health assessments. This allows them to see the opportunities of exercising every day.

Electives are new this year. After freshman year the students can sign up to take electives. So far, these electives have been extremely successful.

Project Adventure is a great opportunity for students to collaborate with each other. It is a great experience for students and they look forward to providing it to them.

The Board thanked Don, John and Victoria for all the work they have done in their curriculum over the past year.

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

#### **Diversity Work:**

Superintendent Morse spoke about the Diversity Work from January – May 2018.

They are currently working with multiple organizations and initiatives;

UNH with Jaime Nolan, Office of Multicultural Affairs

NH Listens with Michele Holt-Shannon

Berwick Academy with Michael Buesuceso

Waking up White community read effort – Kristen Forselius  
Andrew Smith – Disproportionate Minority Contact Coordinator, and  
Oyster River Superintendent’s Advisory committee

Work in planning states to occur between January 2018 through May 2018:

Potential course offering via Lesley College in partnership with Berwick  
Academy cultural coordinator – Michael Buensuceso.

After school course work planned by NH Listens focused on diversity. One  
course geared at elementary and one at middle and high school. All planned  
for January.

Staff meeting in January to address how to talk about race with Andrew Smith.  
Community forums with Andrew Smith on how to talk about race to your  
children.

Waking up White – multiple activities with culminating activity on April 16 with  
the author at the high school in auditorium.

Policy addendum is in process.

**Football Research:** They have collected information that the Board asked of  
Administration.

A citizen’s warrant needs to be completed by January 9<sup>th</sup>. If the Board does it  
and it does not have money attached to it, it needs to be done by January 26<sup>th</sup>.  
He is hoping to have a discussion on football at the December 20<sup>th</sup> meeting  
ahead of the warrant deadlines in January.

**Crosswalk at Mast Way:** The Town of Lee and the School District will be  
sharing the cost of the crosswalks at Mast Way.

**C. Business Administrator:** None

**D. Student Senate Report:** Moved up before Announcements

**E. Other:**

**Update on MS Competency Timeline: Jay Richard:** Principal Jay Richard  
reviewed the progress on the timeline with the Board:

August 2017: Competency PLC will meet to plan a variety of communication  
strategies: Done

August 2017: New staff will receive training on competency based learning from PLC: In Progress

September 2017: Middle School Open House: Done

September: Principal Richard will share the competency video, FAQ documents with parents in attendance: Done

October: Parent focus Group for grades 6 and 7. Moved to November/December.

November 2017: First Quarter report cards will be published. A parent survey will be sent to all middle school families soliciting feedback on new reporting system along with report card notification.

December: A parent Forum to collect feedback and competency implantation to date will be held.

January 2018: Parent focus group for grades 6 and 7.

January – March 2018: Principal Richard will continue to utilize the Weekly Update to communicate with families about competencies, and the middle school website will be updated with new competency documents.

April 5, 2018: Third quarter report cards will be published. A second parent survey will be sent to all middle school families soliciting feedback on competency implementation.

Mid-April: A parent Forum to collect feedback on competency implementation will be held.

May: Parent focus group for grades 6 and 7.

May-June: Implementation plans for 2018-19 will be made and shared with School Board and parent community.

## **VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

### **Siemens Capital Plan: Jim Rozycki reviewed the Options with the Board:**

Option Ia: \$4,927,800

7 Year: \$857,000/year

10 Year: \$620,503/year

12 Year: \$517,419/year

Option Ib: \$3,790,240

5 Year: \$955,141/year

7 Year: \$682,244/year

10 Year: \$477,571/year

Option 1c: \$2,858,061

5 year: \$720,231

7 year: \$514,451

10 year: \$360,116

Al Howland is concerned about phasing in the windows. He would like to do the windows at once. He likes option 1b. It also takes up less than 20% of the total budget.

Brian Cisneros feels that the car charging stations are more of a want than a need.

Kenny Rotner asked about why on some options items are included and on others not. He asked how are they decisions made? Jim Rozycki replied that these projects have an energy measure tied to them. He is looking at how systems are operating and what their end of life is.

**Al Howland moved to accept Option 1b for a 10 year term, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Brian Cisneros.**

Kenny Rotner brought up the possibility of doing this as a warrant article. Al Howland feels that we have to do this work and that interest rates are really low right now. Superintendent Morse noted that if this goes out to bond, the interest rate would be approximately a full point higher. Michael Williams feels that this is too long to commit to without going to the public. Dan Klein asked about the possibility of a lease warrant. Superintendent Morse replied that it would need 51% voter approval.

**The Motion passed 6-1 with Michael Williams opposing.**

**Budget FY19:**

Sue Caswell discussed budget cuts to get to the School Board goal of a 3.25% increase:

In an effort to get to the School Board goal to keep our budget increase to 3.25% it is necessary to cut \$140,000 from our current budget.

Proposed changes:

School supplies budget at \$100 per student	Exp. Savings/Source \$17,000 MW, MOH, MS
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Pay for bus camera over 2 years	\$25,000 Trans
Pay for HS public address system out of this	\$22,000 HS
Year end fund balance	
Middle School Equipment	\$ 2,000 MS
High School Equipment	\$ 2,000 HS
Books/periodicals decrease= \$2,000 from each school	\$ 8,000 MW, MOH, MW, HS
Curriculum resource cycle= \$2,500 from each school	\$10,000 MW, MOH, MW HS
MS counseling supplies	\$ 1,000 MS
MW library supplies, books, fees	\$ 2,000 MW
MW principal supplies	\$ 2,000 MW
Spec Education legal expense	\$ 5,500 SPEC ED
Spec Education para salaries	\$ 5,000 SPEC ED
District Furniture	\$10,000 DISTRICT
District Legal Expense	\$ 4,000 DISTRICT
District/school board contract services	\$ 2,000 DISTRICT
HS Natural gas account	\$10,000 FACILITIES
Transportation vehicle fuel	\$ 5,000 TRANS
Technology workshops and equip repairs	\$ 3,300 TECH
District curriculum development expenses	\$ 2,000 DISTRICT
	\$140,000 Total

**Al Howland moved to approve the general fund for \$44,199,061, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Denise Day. Michael Williams moved to amend the amount to \$44,207,561 to include \$8,500 for the fire panel. Michael Williams withdrew his amended motion.**

The Board discussed the possibility of adding a World Language Grade 5 Teaching position. Dan Klein and Denise Day would like to see the final numbers play out before adding it. Kenny Rotner feels that we need to commit to expanding this program.

**The motion passed 7-0.**

Superintendent Morse explained that there is a possible Homeland Security Grant that may be coming through that would benefit Mast Way School. There was a security analysis done on Mast Way school three years ago and now because the state passed a bill for schools that have a homeland security plan



80% of Mast Way's front entry would be funded. This has not formally been funded as of yet.

The Draft Warrant Articles with the numbers inserted will be presented at the next meeting.

**Draft 2018-19 School Calendar – 1<sup>st</sup> Review:** Superintendent Morse presented this first review and this will come back in two weeks for approval.

**Negotiated Agreements:**

ORBDA: The ORBDA passed their side of it 19-5. This has been a very long process. The Board will enter into nonpublic at the end of the meeting for discussion.

**VIII. ACTIONS:**

**A. Superintendent Action Items:** None

**B. Board Action Items:**

**Policies for a Second Reading/Adoption:**

Policy AC: Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity

Policy JICK: Bullying/Cyberbullying

Policy JLCE: Emergency Care and First Aid

Policy GBCD: Background Investigation and Criminal Records Check

**Denise Day moved to approve the above policies for adoption, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dan Klein. The motion passed 7-0.**

**IX. SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE UPDATES:**

Al Howland filled the Board in on the Wellness Committee. They discussed cell phones at the middle school and high school. A goal is to create a coherent way in a cooperative effort with parents to deal with this. Start times of schools were discussed. They are looking at how it can be improved in the future. Vaping was a discussion item. There have been 13 suspensions this year for vaping.

**X. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Dean Rubine of Lee talked about the middle school report cards, he would like to see some examples of other school's report cards.

William Hall of Durham mentioned that with lighting, you not only get rebates but savings every year. The sooner you capture the savings the better. He would do all the windows.

**XI. CLOSING ACTIONS:**

**A. Future Meeting Dates:** 12/20/17 and 1/3/18 Regular Meetings  
1/9/18 Public Hearing at the ORHS Auditorium

**Tom Newkirk moved to enter into nonpublic session at 9:57 p.m. in accordance with RSA 91-A:3 II (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 shall be granted**

**And**

**In accordance with RSA 91-A:3 II (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, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Brian Cisneros. Upon roll call vote, the motion passed 7-0.**

**XII. NON-PUBLIC SESSION: RSAS 91-A:3 II (a) and (c)**

**Superintendent’s Evaluation and Superintendent Announcement AND RSA 91-A:2 I (a) Strategies with Respect to collective bargaining**

**NON-MEETING SESSION: RSA 91-A2 I (if needed)**

**Denise Day moved to enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:2 I (a) Strategies with Respect to collective bargaining at 9:40 p.m., 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dan Klein. Upon roll call vote, the motion passed 7-0.**

Respectfully yours,  
Laura Grasso Dobson  
Recording Secretary