

**Oyster River Cooperative School District  
Regular Meeting**

**December 20, 2017**

**ORHS Library**

**7:00 p.m.**

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

Not Present: Student Representative: H.J. Wilson

**ADMINISTRATORS:** Sue Caswell, Todd Allen, Superintendent Morse, Suzanne Filippone

There were 7 members of the public present.

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

**APPROVAL OF MANIFESTS:**

Payroll Manifest #12: \$949,799.65 Vendor Manifest # 12 \$175,697.75

**II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Revision: Move OrPass Negotiations to right after the approval of minutes

**Denise Day moved to approve the agenda as amended, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Brian Cisneros. Motion passed 7-0.**

**III. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Dean Rubine from Lee congratulated Superintendent Morse for being named the New Hampshire 2018 Superintendent of the year.

Anita Mather, President of the Oyster River Alumni Association, and parent in the District spoke and they are in strong favor of the development of Adventure Education curriculum at Oyster River High School. She is in support of a climbing wall and ropes course which are necessary equipment for this new curriculum. They believe that this learning program will have multiple benefits. This will help with self-confidence and team work. They believe that the investment is well worth it.

William Hall of Durham noted that first read of the tobacco products policy and urged the Board to adopt a zero-tolerance policy.

Sandra Hebert of Durham spoke about the possibility of a football program going to a warrant article. She noted that the Girls Hockey Team entered into a

cooperative agreement without a warrant article. She urged the Board to look at football with an open mind. This decision should be made at the School Board level.

Ellory Raitt of Madbury spoke on behalf of football and thinks that the School Board should vote on it and not pass it off to a warrant article. He noted that there are risks in all sports and parents who want their kids to play football know the risks and they would like the same opportunity as other sports.

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**Motion to approve 11/15/17 regular and 12/6/17 regular and nonpublic minutes:**

**Denise Day moved to approve the November 15<sup>th</sup> regular meeting minutes, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kenny Rotner.**

**Revisions: Replace Robert Barth's comment at the bottom of page two with "Robert Barth of Lee read a statement arguing that scientific studies have demonstrated the health risks of youth football. He urged the Board to be informed of this science and to oppose any extension of football to Oyster River High School. He apologized to anyone who took offense to his prior comments to the Board."**

**Motion with the above revision passed 7-0.**

**December 6 Regular Meeting Minutes: Denise Day moved to approve the regular minutes of December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dan Klein.**

**Revision: Move these comments below from the non-public meeting minutes to the last paragraph of public comments:**

**The Board re-entered into public session and moved to go 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 adversely affect 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.**

**Motion passed 7-0.**

**Nonpublic December 6<sup>th</sup> Nonpublic Minutes: Kenny Rotner moved to accept the two nonpublic minutes with the two paragraphs moving into public minutes, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Brian Cisneros. Motion passed 7-0.**

ORPaSS-Oyster River Paraeducators and Support Staff:

Sue Caswell described the ORPaSS Agreement to the Board. We have reached a tentative agreement with the Oyster River Paraeducators and Support Staff Association. The changes to the agreement are outlined below:

A three-year agreement for school years: 2018-2019, 2019-2020, and 2020-2021

Added three sick leave days to paraeducators days, changed cumulative amount from 30 to 60. Added language to clarify they are for sick leave only with one day available for personal business.

Added a Sick Leave Donation Bank comparable to other bargaining units.

Added a Vacation Savings Account option for employees who want to save funds for vacations and summer weeks.

Revised current salary schedule to improve beginning step and gave top step employees additional \$.50 hour each year.

**Denise Day moved to approve the ORPaSS Contract as outlined above, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Brian Cisneros. Motion passed 7-0.**

## **V. ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**A. District:** None

**B. Board:** Denise Day commended the various Music Performances. They were very well done. Michael Williams discussed the student screen use policy and asked about the status of it in the Policy Committee. Kenny Rotner replied that

it has been brought up at the last meeting and it is on track for their time frame.

Al Howland encouraged everyone to google Durham parks and recs because there are free activities going on during vacation week.

Kenny Rotner read a letter from the Madbury Selectman congratulating Superintendent Morse on the honor of being named the New Hampshire Superintendent of the Year for 2018 by the New Hampshire School Administrators Association and the American Association of School Administrators.

## **VI. DISTRICT REPORTS:**

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

Todd Allen noted that Superintendent Morse being named the Superintendent of the Year is very well deserved.

### **K-5 Science Update:**

Todd Allen reported that in October 2016, a K-5 Science Committee was formed in anticipation of the state adopting the Next Generation Science Standards.

In November 2016, the NH Board of Education Adopted NGSS as part of the K-12 Science Curriculum for New Hampshire.

The K-5 Science goal for 2016-17 was to familiarize staff with NGSS and identify curricular shifts necessary for full alignment.

The K-5 Science goal for 2017-18 is to align K-5 Science Curriculum with NGSS for a fall 2018 implementation.

Accomplishments to date for 2017-18 Goal:

K-5 Content mapped out

K-5 Science competencies have been developed

Process of aligning standards with competences is well under way

Remaining Timeline for 2017-18:

Prior to the March 23, 2018 PD day grade level sub groups will complete the work of aligning standards with competencies.

The March 23, 2018 PD Day will be utilized to finalize the draft K-5 science curriculum with the professional staff.

In April the committee would like to present its work to the School Board for approval.

Assuming approval by the Board the committee will identify resources and necessary PD to support the new curriculum.

**B. Superintendent's Report:** Superintendent Morse detailed that there was a letter sent out to solicit membership for the Strategic Planning Committee.

**C. Business Administrator:**

**Budget Update for the Current Year:**

Sue Caswell reported that we are six months into the budget and everything is stable.

**Default Budget:** Sue Caswell detailed that the general fund is:

General Fund 10 Total:	\$44,199,061
Article 3 ORBDA	\$ 54,083
Article 4 ORPass:	\$ 64,876

Total with warrant article: \$44,318,020 or 3.20%

The Default Budget is: \$45,555,984

**D. Student Senate Report:** Tom Newkirk read the Student Senate report from Hannah Jane Wilson. The senate has been discussing the schedule and looking into whether we can make any changes for next semester. All four grades are working together, along with the Relay for Life Committee, to plan a Snowball Dance which will take place on the 19<sup>th</sup> of January. This will be a fundraiser split between Relay for Life and all the grades. The Boys basketball home opener vs Kennet is this Friday at 6:45 in the gym. US History students are working hard to finish up their National History Day projects for January 5.

**E. Other:**

**Long Range Planning Committee**

Lisa Allison updated the Board on the Long-Range Planning Committee:

Summary of LRPC Goals:

Provide the School Board with enrollment for each of the next 10 years

Make every effort to provide projections for the following school year in the fall when they can be used in the budgeting process.

Continually improve and refine the model used to make enrollment projections.

Decline in Enrollment is largely offset by HS Tuition Students:

Peak enrollment was 2,393 in 2000.

2017-18 enrollment is 2,148 including 142 tuition students.

Decline over 17 years was 245.

Methodology:

First Grade: Historical births and enrollment trends are used to project the numbers of students.

Grades 2-12: Grade Progression Ratios (GPRs) are used to forecast the number of students.

Grade Progression Ratios for Net New Students:

More families with children moving in than moving out.

All GPRs for grades 2-12 are in the range of 1.00 – 1.05 except grade 8-9 which is impacted by tuitions students coming in and native students going to private schools. High School GPR very close to 1.00.

Projection Range (Plus and minus)  
Historical LRPC Projections 1994-2007

Subtract Actual Enrollment for each projected year

Take the absolute value of the difference and divide by the actual enrollment figure to get a percentage.

Find the average percentage difference for each forecast horizon.

**The Projections:**

Year	Total Students
2017-2018	2,148

2018-2019	2,153
2019-2020	2,173
2020-2021	2,163
2021-2022	2,146
2022-2023	2,145
2023-2024	2,138
2024-2025	2,136
2025-2026	2,118
2026-2027	2,108
2027-2028	2,097

Elementary School Projections:

Mast Way:

	K	1	2	3	4	Total
2017-18	70	72	76	63	71	362
2018-19	59	75	76	78	67	355
2019-20	62	69	79	77	82	369
2020-21	62	70	73	81	82	367
2021-22	61	70	74	74	85	364
2022-23	61	68	73	75	78	356
2023-24	63	67	72	74	80	356
2024-25	63	68	71	73	79	355
2025-26	64	68	72	72	76	354
2026-27	65	69	71	73	77	354
2027-28	66	69	72	73	78	357

Moharimet

	K	1	2	3	4	Total
2017-18	49	63	64	86	81	343
2018-19	50	63	65	66	90	335
2019-20	52	58	65	69	71	314
2020-21	52	69	60	60	72	311
2021-22	52	68	61	63	72	306
2022-23	51	57	60	64	66	299
2023-24	53	57	59	64	67	299
2024-25	53	57	58	63	66	298
2025-26	54	57	59	62	65	297
2026-27	54	57	59	63	64	297
2027-28	55	58	59	62	65	300

Middle School Projections:

2017	660
2018	668
2019	674
2020	682
2021	674
2022	680
2023	667
2024	661
2025	652
2026	636
2027	632

High School Enrollment Total

2017	793
2018	795
2019	816
2020	803
2021	802
2022	810
2023	815
2024	823
2025	815
2026	821
2027	808

Summary:

Total ORCSD enrollment is projected to remain in the 2,100 range for the entire projection period. Enrollment declines by only 51 students, from 2,148 this year to 2,097 projected in 2027-28.

Full day kindergarten is assumed. The size of the kindergarten remains close to the current level of 119 throughout the projection.



The number of elementary school students will decrease slightly, by about 38 students, from 695 now to 657 in 2027. Mast Way now has 9 more students than Moharimet. This difference will grow to 55 students in 2026-2027 and remain at about that level to the end of the projection period.

Middle School enrollment now 660 grows to 682 in 2020-21 then drops to 632 in 2027-28.

High School enrollment now 793 (651 plus 142 tuition students) rises to 823 in 2024-25 then drops to 808 in 2027-2028 (648 plus 160 tuition students).

## **VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

### **A. School Board Representative**

**Motion to authorize the School Board Representative to use best judgement to vote on behalf of SAU #5 at the NH Resolution Workshop: Kenny Rotner moved that Tom Newkirk will be the School Board Representative using best judgement to vote on behalf of SAU #5 at the NH Resolution Workshop, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dan Klein. Motion passed 7-0.**

Kenny Rotner excused himself.

**Football:** Andy Lathrop, Athletic Director, presented information on cooperative football to the Board:

Questions from ORCSD School Board regarding cooperative football:

What implied or expressed obligations would this agreement mean for future Boards: While it is the NHIAAs hope that all schools entering into these agreements will pursue their own program, it is not mandatory that they do so. Both schools involved in the agreement must reapply

How football impacts Title IX Compliance at ORHS: If a student already participates in another sport, then participation in football would not increase the athlete numbers.

Dr. Morse noted that the District would not be in violation of Title IX with these projected numbers.

What would the costs be to either District and or parents? If Oyster River approves a cooperative football agreement with either Portsmouth or Dover, it

would be based on a per player cost, paid directly to the lead school by the parents of the participant.

Cost Estimates:

Dover High School: \$460.00 per player fixed costs per year.

Portsmouth High School: Total budget divided by number of players from PHS and ORHS. Should average between \$500 - \$600.

What issues related to liability would the cooperative create? Based on the letter sent to Dr. Morse from the attorney, any assumed liability when adding football would be low. According to the insurance carrier, when a district is insured for its athletic activities, it is assumed football is a part of them.

Board Options For a Possible Cooperative Football Agreement:

- 1 Take no action and main current position of no football in any form at the high school.
- 2 Authorize the AD to develop a Cooperative Football Agreement that the Board would then vote on, possibly in January
- 3 Authorize the AD to develop a Cooperative Football Agreement and then create an advisory warrant article that will be presented at the Deliberative Session and voted on in March. The Board would then base its actions on the results of the vote.
- 4 Authorize the AD to develop a Cooperative Football Agreement and encourage the football supporters to create an advisory citizen's warrant to be presented at the Deliberative Session and voted on in March. The Board would then base its actions on the results of the vote.
- 5 Authorize the AD to develop a Cooperative Football Agreement. The Board would open up a comment period, during which there would be an information session on what the agreement entails. The Board would then vote on the agreement.

The Board had an in-depth discussion with the AD. Denise Day is hesitant to use an option that includes warrant articles. Brian Cisneros is against putting cooperative football on a warrant article. He feels that it is their responsibility as a Board to make this decision. Al Howland believes that both option 3 and 5 are viable.

Superintendent Morse suggested a forum in January for an opportunity to get feedback from the community. Denise Day would be in favor of option 5. Dan Klein said that there is a strong possibility that there will be requests for expert presentations at the forum and asked how it would be handled. Dr. Morse replied that anyone can give input during a forum, but it doesn't include bringing in speakers. Al Howland doesn't feel that a forum will resolve this hot button issue.

Andy Lathop remarked that PHS and Dover both have outstanding Football Programs. The leadership in both schools are outstanding. Both Al Howland and Dan Klein agree that the Portsmouth option makes the best sense.

The coaches from both Portsmouth and Dover spoke to the School Board on their football programs.

**Michael Williams moved to direct the Athletic Director that the Board Develop with proposed cooperative agreement with Portsmouth with the intent of discussion at a community forum on January 10, 2018 and a Board vote on January 17, 2018, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Brian Cisneros. Brian and Denise both would like to see a proposed cooperative agreement with Dover and Portsmouth.**

**Michael Williams moved to amend motion to direct the Athletic Director with a proposed cooperative agreement with Portsmouth and a proposed cooperative agreement with Dover.**

**Motion passed 4-2 with Al Howland and Dan Klein opposing and Kenny Rotner abstaining.**

Kenny Rotner rejoined the meeting.

#### **VIII.ACTIONS:**

**A. Superintendent Actions:** None

**B. Board Action Items:**

**Motion to approve 2018-19 School Calendar: Denise Day moved to approve the 2018-19 School Calendar, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Al Howland. Motion passed 7-0.**

**Motion to approve List of Policies for a first read: ADC Use of Tobacco Products Strictly Prohibited, JICH and R Drug and Alcohol Use by Students:**

**Revision: Policy ADC Remove “and possession” from the title and remove “and possess” from the first line.**

**Denise Day moved to approve the list of policies with the above revision, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dan Klein. Motion passed 7-0.**

**IX. SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE UPDATES:** None

**X. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** William Hall of Durham noted that the town council have tried to contest funding for ORYA funding in Durham.

**XI. CLOSING ACTIONS:**

**A. Future Meeting Dates:** 01/03/18 and 01/17/18 Regular Meeting ORHS

Library

01/09/18 Public Hearing ORHS Auditorium

01/22/18 Superintendent with Durham Town Council

01/29/18 Superintendent with Town of Lee

02/05/18 Superintendent with Town of Madbury

**XII. NON-PUBLIC SESSION: RSA-91-A:3 II**

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

**Strategies with Respect to Collective Bargaining**

**XIII. ADJOURNMENT:**

**Michael Williams moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:30 p.m., 2<sup>nd</sup> by Brian Cisneros. Motion passed 7-0.**

Respectfully yours,  
Laura Grasso Dobson  
Recording Secretary