

**Oyster River Cooperative School District**

**June 1, 2016      O.R. Middle School – Library - REVISED      6:30 p.m.**

**SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS:** Tom Newkirk, Al Howland, Denise Day, Sarah Farwell, Maria Barth, Dan Klein, Kenny Rotner and Student Representative: Troy Lapolice

**ADMINISTRATORS:** Superintendent Dr. James Morse, Sue Caswell, Todd Allen, Mike McCann, Catherine Plourde, Carrie Vaiche, Jay Richard

There was fourteen members of the public present

**I. CALL TO ORDER:**

6:30 – 7:00 p.m. Manifest Review/Approval at each School Board meeting.

**II. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Dean Rubine of Lee discussed the Middle School. He hopes that discussions on the building begin soon.

Stacey Howe thanked the Board for reviewing Ethan Howe’s hardship request that has come from the Barrington School Board.

Lori Bromley of Durham recently submitted a letter regarding cell phones at the Middle School. She has reviewed the policy. They were pretty surprised to see that students were encouraged to bring cell phones to school and has urged the Board to review the policy over the summer.

Deanna Pilkenton of Durham also spoke about cell phone usage at the middle school and would like to see this policy be reviewed as soon as possible.

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**Motion to approve 5/18/16 Regular Meetings and 5/25/16 Start Time Workshop Minutes:**

**Denise Day moved to approve the May 18<sup>th</sup> Regular Minutes, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Al Howland.**

**Revisions:**

**Page 2 at end of the page add: Sarah Farwell questioned the need for doing this with the change to full day Kindergarten. She would like the discussion revisited for next years’ calendar.**

**Add to the end of Page 5: “Sarah Farwell had a number of changes she wanted to see made to the handbooks assuming those changes/updates a motion was put forward.”**

**Page 1: last paragraph in the third sentence delete the word “between”.**

**Page 6: insert “and 9-12 high school level” after 8 in the third paragraph.**

**Page 5: move Paragraph 7 after the heading ORCSD Draft Handbook .... as a new paragraph. Motion passed 7-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.**

**Approval of Minutes: Al Howland moved to approve the May 25<sup>th</sup> Start Time Minutes, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sarah Farwell.**

**Denise Day moved to postpone the approval of the May 25<sup>th</sup> Start Time Minutes, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Maria Barth. Motion passed 7-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.**

#### **APPROVAL OF MANIFESTS:**

Payroll Manifest #25 \$1,199,649.64

Vendor Manifest #26 \$595,703.10

#### **IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMENDATIONS:**

##### **A. District:**

Mike McCann of the High School announced that this week is the last week for the Senior Class. The Senior Art Show has started tonight. It is really a phenomenal show. Next week is senior week. Next Friday is Graduation at the Whittemore Center. The sports teams are in playoffs.

Carrie Vaiche announced that the Mast Way PTO is having a book fair at Barnes and Noble on Sunday June 12<sup>th</sup>. If you mention Mast Way a portion of the proceeds go to the playground revitalization project. They have started a Robotics Club after school this year. They had so many kids interested in robotics that they had to break it into two groups. Last week they welcomed the incoming Kindergartners. They had a full house at both sessions.

**B. Board:**

Kenny Rotner thanked the kids from Mast Way who participated in the Durham Memorial Parade this year. He noted that there is a committee involved that is addressing the Middle School.

Regarding the Policy Issue on the communication technology piece, they are willing to review the Policy if it is the direction the Board wants. Kenny also recognized Alexander Taylor for all his work in making the Board meetings happen at the different school.

Dan Klein thanked the Guidance Staff for helping them with a new scholarship opportunity that arose late in the year. He would like to see that there is a calendar system to help coordinate the activities in the District.

Tom Newkirk announced that two teachers were picked as recipients of the Heinemann Fellow Award, Ian Fleischer and Chris Hall.

**Superintendent Morse announced and recognized the list of District school staff retiring June 2016.**

Mast Way School:

Helanie Sweet: Speech and Language. Started in 2007

Carrie Vaiche will be getting together at the end of the year to celebrate the retirement and will keep the Board updated on the day.

Moharimet School:

Carol McEntee: Psychologist Started in 1989 as a Guidance Counselor/Associate Psychologist.

Dennis Harrington noted that Carol is the conscious of the school. She is the most autonomous employee he works with.

Middle School:

Colette Malerba Grade 5 started in 1997 as a Grade 5 teacher.

Jay Richard and the staff will be celebrating her retirement at an upcoming meeting.

**V. DISTRICT REPORTS:**

**A. Assistant Superintendent/Curriculum & Instruction:** None

**B. Superintendent's Report:**

Hardship Application for Senior Student who relocated and wants to remain at ORHS. Under the new state law, it requires the action of the School Board. It has his recommendation to approve the hardship application.

**Kenny Rotner moved to accept the hardship application, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Maria Barth. Motion passed 7-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.**

**C. Business Administrator Report:**

Orchard Drive Bid Process:

Sue Caswell detailed that they are working on the draft of the Orchard Drive bid to allow the Board time to review it ahead of the next meeting. UNH is requesting an easement to the property. They are going to do some research on it and determine if it has an impact to the value of the property. This will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

**D. Student Senate Report:**

Troy LaPolice reported that it is the week before senior finals. This is the week projects are due.

**E. Other:** None

**VI. DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

**Kindergarten Enrollment Update:**

Mast Way current enrollment is 53. LRPC had estimated it to be 45 students. Moharimet current enrollment is 54. Denise Day noted that the LRPC projections for all of kindergarten was 104 with a top enrollment of 111. They discussed hiring an additional new kindergarten teacher. The numbers haven't changed much since March. If they were to hire an additional teacher with the same number of students there would be approximately 15 students per classroom. There was a discussion about changing the class size policy for Kindergarten students. Kindergarten enrollment will be discussed again at the next Board meeting.

## **Middle School Standards Based Learning/Grading Competency Based Reporting:**

Aaron Ward, grade six teacher at the Middle School, gave an overview of the Standards Based system:

Introduction – Quick Overview of Standards Based System:

Oyster River and Standards Based Learning

What is Standards Based Learning?

Early recognition of benefits and roadblocks

Formation and expansion of PLC

Standards Based Learning Website for additional information

Important Definitions:

Competency: an overarching concept that encompasses multiple learning standards which are interconnected. These are developed by each grade level for each discipline.

Standard: A non-negotiable, measurable learning objective that guides instruction. These content specific standards have been developed either at the state or national level.

I can Statements: Standards can be converted into I Can statements so that they are more student and parent friendly.

Lynn Ellsworth a 7<sup>th</sup> Grade teacher at the Middle School reviewed: Why is this the best system for ORMS?

Benefits of Standards Based Grading:

All students clearly show their mathematical reasoning.

Clearly defined standards and student progress for students, parents, and teachers.

I believe more math is learned with SBL 70% versus a “2”

Focus is on math concepts learned instead of points earned.

Strategies that helped to overcome challenges:

Following rubric made by Aaron Ward that is used on every assessment.

Put ownership on the students instead of me if the standard was not met.

Learning Goal:

4 Exceeds: Strong mathematical reasoning is shown and solutions are correct.

3 At the Standard: Solid mathematical reasoning is shown and most solutions are correct. Incorrect solutions contain only minor errors. A 3 is the target zone for students.

2 Approaching the Standard: Inconsistent use of reasoning or application of mathematics to solve problems.

Andrea Lawrence 7<sup>th</sup> grade teacher discussed where we are now and the progression of our journey:

Progression of our Journey

Awareness, Investigation, Development, Implementation and Refinement

Where are we now?

Andrea reviewed and detailed the timeline and process of each department at the middle school. This has been a very fluid process for the staff at the middle school.

Valerie Wolfsen who teaches Social Studies at the Middle School reviewed

Professional Development with the Board:

Professional Development

October: Meaningful Assessment for Standards or Competency Based Grading

November- Rob Westerberg

January: April 2-3 Release days by Department

February – May: Formative Assessment and Standards Based Grading Book Group

February and April: School visits

March: NELMS, PD article – discussed purpose, policy and exceeds standard

May: Nan Parsons and fifth grade presentation

July: Sanborn Regional

Summer Proposals

Alida Carter Physical Education Teacher at the Middle School reviewed: How are decisions made (staff inclusion) as we move forward:

Staff Surveys have been given to develop an understanding of where we are as a school in this process

Departments are working together to organize standards and develop competencies

Grade Level Teams are having discussions during team meeting times  
Group discussions in small focus groups of 8-10 teachers  
Discussions as an entire faculty during staff meetings and teacher workshop days  
Extra ticket feedback  
Standards based learning PLC

Jerika Olberg a Middle School teacher discussed Reporting:

What does it look like now?  
Habits of Learning  
Standards  
Averaged Numerical Grades

What do we hope it will look like by fall 2017?  
Standards will be grouped by competency  
Habits of Learning  
No averages

Jason Demers a 6<sup>th</sup> grade science teacher reviewed what's next:  
Moving forward:  
SBL is an ongoing work in progress  
Report progress to the School Board  
Educating community

Implementation:  
Math, PE, Arts, S.T.E.M., Health/Life Skills, Music, WL implementing next year.  
Implementation by all subjects beginning fall 2017  
Three descriptive tiered scale (M) Meets (D) Developing (B) Beginning

The Board thanked the teachers for all their work they have put into this. They discussed how the three tiered scale will be working and the narrative that teachers will be inputting. Jay Richard reported that the teachers are meeting in professional development and making decisions. This new systems makes more sense because it is more user friendly. It will catch and identify where students may be having an issue. Sarah Farwell asked if teachers and administrators discussed that this was a work in progress, feedback to be solicited from staff, students and families. She asked questions and voiced concerns particularly about three tiered vs. four tier choice concerns.

Denise Day hopes moving forward plans to expand standards-based grading will come before the Board for approval in accordance with policy.

Superintendent Morse thinks that the staff has hit this out of the park and they have come up with a framework that is so meaningful to Oyster River. It reflects the priorities of this staff.

## **VII. ACTIONS:**

**A. Superintendent:** None

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

**Motion to approve ORHS and Moharimet Nominations:**

**Al Howland moved to approve ORHS English teacher, English Video Production Teacher, .5 FTE Social Studies Teachers and at Moharimet Special Education Teacher and School Psychologist, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dan Klein. Motion passed 7-0.**

**Motion to approve request for ORMS Maternity and Extended Leave of Absence: Denise Day moved to approve the request for ORMS Maternity and Extended Leave of Absence, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Al Howland. Motion approved 7-0.**

**Motion to approve List of Policies: Kenny Rotner moved to approve the following list of policies, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Maria Barth:**

**Policy JRA Student Education Records and Information**

**Policy JRA-R Student Education Records and Information Procedure**

**Policy JRA-E FERPA Student Annual Notice**

**Policy JRB Confidential Student Information**

**Policy JICK Pupil Safety and Violence Prevention – Bully and Cyberbullying**

**Policy BEDB and R: Agenda Preparation and Format**

**Policy GBJ and R: Personnel Records**

**Motion passed 7-0.**

## **VIII. SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE UPDATES:**

Denise Day reported that the Long Range Planning met on May 23 discussed the Kindergarten numbers. A local realtor came and discussed that the market has picked up over last year.



**Sarah Farwell moved for the Policy Committee to review the cell phone policy, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Denise Day. Motion approved 7-0.**

Maria Barth reported that she attended a NHSBA Workshop last week on how to evaluate a Superintendent. She felt it was very good and would make the process easier for the Board.

Dan Klein reported that the Sustainability Steering Committee met last night and reviewed committee goals and projects. They are interested in any changes the Board may have in mind for them.

**IX. PUBLIC COMMENT:** Dean Rubine of Lee feels that the people objection to start time is essentially not enough of time during the day. He also noted that the new grading system at the middle school which is competency based and has a lack of meet with distinction may be objected by some parents. Regarding the easement, the community sentiment may not be to grant UNH's request.

**X. CLOSING ACTIONS:**

**A. Future Meeting Dates:** June 15 Regular Meeting at the High School  
June 29 Manifest Meeting at the High School-C120

**XI. NON-PUBLIC SESSION: RSA 91-A:3** {If needed}

**NON-MEETING SESSION: RSA 91-A:2**

**Al Howland moved to temporarily adjourn to a non-meeting at 9:20 PM, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Maria Barth. Motion passed 7-0.**

**XII. ADJOURNMENT:**

**Maria Barth made a motion at 9:31 PM to return to public session and adjourn at 9:32 PM, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Al Howland. Motion passed.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Laura Grasso Dobson  
Recording Secretary