

Oyster River Cooperative School District

Regular Meeting (REVISED 2/11/15)

January 21, 2015

Oyster River High School

6:30 pm

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS: Tom Newkirk, Al Howland, Kenny Rotner, Denise Day, Maria Barth, Ed Charle, Sarah Farwell and Student Representative Maegan Doody

ADMINISTRATORS: Superintendent James Morse, Todd Allen, Jay Richard, Dennis Harrington, Carrie Vaich, Carolyn Eastman and Catherine Plourde

There were two members of the public present

I CALL TO ORDER by Tom Newkirk at 6:30 p.m. for Manifest Review
Tom read the requirements of the nonpublic meeting requirements: Names of the board members, brief description of the subject matter and the actions taken at the meeting.

II PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

III APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND MANIFESTS:

December 17th nonpublic minutes: **Maria Barth moved to staff survey input was discuss and Al Howland was asked by the Board to write a draft on the superintendent's evaluation, 2nd by Sarah Farwell. Motion approved 7-0.**

January 7th Meeting Minutes:

Revision: Page 2 Paragraph 4 2nd line replace "Bobcat" with "Kindness".

Page 2: Add in "O'Brien after Patrick

Al Howland moved to approve the January 7th meeting minutes with the above revisions, 2nd by Kenny Rotner. Motion passed 7-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

Nonpublic January 7th meeting minutes: Denise Day moved to approve the nonpublic January 7th meeting minutes, 2nd by Al Howland. Motion approved 7-0.

Approval of Manifests:

Payroll Manifest #16: \$781,169.26

Vendor Manifest #15: \$296,932.05

IV ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMENDATIONS

Board: Tom Newkirk noted that he was a judge at the Poetry Outloud Contest and it was a great evening.

V DISTRICT REPORTS

None

VI DISCUSSION ITEMS

Smarter Balanced Assessment: Superintendent Morse and the Administration Team presented the Smarter Balanced Assessment Spring 2015 to the Board:

Introduction:

2009: The state-led effort to develop the Common Core State Standards was launched by state leaders, including governors and state commissioners of education from 48 states, two territories and the District of Columbia

2010: NH adopted the Common Cores state Standards for Math and ELA as a part of the overall NH College and Career Readiness Standards

2014: 43 States adopted the Common core state Standards

Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortia (SBAC): Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium

Governance: A state-led consortium with equal representation across member states

Economies of Scale: High quality assessments beyond what any single state can afford

Apples to Apples: Equivalent levels of rigor across all member states

Common Core in Relation to NH College and Career Readiness Standards: NH College and Career Readiness Standards are grade level student expectations that have been “adopted” by the State Board of Education to support student success in core academics, career and technical education and other subjects. They are drawn from state and national standards and are meant to guide schools and districts as they set their student expectations, curriculum and instructional practices.

Computer Adaptive Testing (CAT): Based on student responses, the computer program adjusts the difficulty of questions throughout the assessment.

Computer adaptive tests use fewer questions to accurately determine each student's achievement level. The assessments draw from a large bank of questions, and since students receive different questions based on their responses, test items are more secure.

ORCSD District Preparation:

Analyzed the Common Core State Standards

Elementary 2012-2014

Middle School and High School Department work 2012-2013

Curriculum mapping to determine commonality and difference within the curriculum 2013-2014.

Implemented a Common Core aligned Benchmark assessment (STAR) grades 2-10 chosen specifically to prepare our students and to provide our staff with a progress monitoring tool to adjust instruction.

Online assessment

Adaptive

Common Core aligned

Moved to an embedded professional development model

Content and grade level teams attend regional conferences

Teacher driven summer professional development proposals.

Mast Way and Moharimet:

Preparation:

Mast Way and Moharimet formed Smarter Balanced Committees

Resources made available

Digital Library/NH DOE documentation as it is distributed

Approached the committee work through Questions, Concerns and Needs

Staff:

Reviewing sample questions

Practicing sample questions

Evaluating Smarter Balanced Vocabulary

Learning new protocols for assessment administration

Will observe administration of practice items with students to identify strengths and specific needs related to content and technology.

Student Practice:

Keyboard
Published question items
Technology and application of new tools
Test toolbar
Manipulation of Mouse

Smarter Balanced new to all – First Year:
New to State and ORCSD – expect concerns
Paradigm shift from paper/pencil to computer adaptive
Expect implementation dip “J” curve
Scale set on pilots in other states
Staff training for administration of test
Review of technology structure

Middle School:

ORMS Staff have been aware and prepped for the Common Core standards since 2010-2011
Common Core standards have been implemented at ORMS
ORMS has been taking computer adaptive tests by using the Star assessments since 2010
All staff have been exposed to a variety of Smarter Balanced resources. On the January Teacher workshop day, all staff will take the grade appropriate practice tests to assist with student planning.

ORMS will simulate Smarter Balanced testing conditions during the winter Star window
Staff are exposing students to sample questions and performance tests
Have students testing in one wing
Rotating grades so that testing is not being done at once
Redirecting all technology resources

We will have data on all our students at all grade levels. This will help inform our teachers, parents and students on things that are going well and things we can work together to improve.

High School:

Over the last three years the high school staff has been actively engaged in the process of aligning our curriculum with the Common Core Standards which is the basis for the SBAC.

The staff has been engaged in a dialogue about how best to prepare for the SBAC by examining resources and taking the practice test.

At the start of this school year, the high school got 175 new student laptop computers which provides the necessary technology to implement the assessment.

All ORHS 9th and 10th graders have taken the computer adaptive STAR assessments for the past two years which simulates the test environment of the SBAC.

The test window for 11th graders is from late April through the end of May.

Teachers will be incorporating sample test items into their classes over the months leading up to SBAC which will expose students to the format of the test and emphasize the importance.

Special Education:

Universal Tools: Available to all students based on preferences and selection.

Designated Supports: Available for any student from whom the need has been identified by an educator or team with the parent/guardian.

Accommodations: Available for students with a disability to provide equitable access which is determined by a team with the parent/guardian.

Technology:

The IT Director as well as the Network Administrator have reviewed the technical requirements provided by SBACC and feel that the ORCSD's network and computers meet and/or exceed these requirements:

Internet Access

Two internet connections currently being used connected to two firewalls

Visibility into what applications and websites are being accessed

Provide SBACC testing traffic the most available bandwidth

Internet Network:

Upgraded all internal connections to 1GB and added a wireless access point per classroom

Allows us to see where each device is connecting in the school and what the performance is.

Computers:

Able to assess all students during the assessment window

Have a tool that allows us to mass deploy software without visiting each computer

In the process of ordering additional mice and headphones to meet SBACC requirements.

Testing the System for the Assessment:

Using STAR as a test we plan to test an entire grade level at once to see what the impact is on our network and internet access.

Communication: Important Dates:

End of January 2015: Smarter Balanced letter will be sent out to parents

Mid February 2015: Smarter Balanced update email will be sent to District parents

March 3, 2015 Proposed Smarter Balance Public Forum.

The Board had a question and answer session with the Administrators and thanked them for the update.

VII ACTIONS

Superintendent and Board Action Items:

Motion to adopt FY16 Budget for Deliberative Session: Kenny Rotner moved to adopt the FY16 Budget for Deliberative Session, 2nd by Denise Day. Motion approved 7-0.

Motion to approve the Default Budget: Kenny Rotner moved to approve the Default Budget, 2nd by Denise Day. Motion approved 7-0.

Motion to approve the Warrant Articles for Deliberative Session: Kenny Rotner moved to approve Warrant Articles 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 for Deliberative Session, 2nd by Denise Day. Motion approved 7-0.

Warrant Article 3: Denise Day moved to amend Article 3 to include: \$300,000 for the project has been previously raised and will be used to fund the construction of the all-weather track, 2nd by Al Howland. Motion approved 7-0.

Kenny Rotner moved to add in The School Board recommends this appropriation, 2nd by Denise Day. Motion passed 5-2 with Maria Barth and Sarah Farwell voting against the motion.

Warrant Article 6: The Board had a discussion on what the monetary goal was for this expendable trust fund is.

Al Howland moved to approve Warrant Article 6, 2nd by Kenny Rotner. Motion approved 7-0.

Motion to approve MS 26 Al Howland moved to approve the MS26, 2nd by Kenny Rotner. Motion approved 7-0.

Motion to approve the ORHS Maternity leave of absence: Al Howland moved to approve the ORHS Maternity Leave of Absence Mid May to the end of the year, 2nd by Denise Day. Motion approved 7-0.

Motion to approve the ORMS Maternity Leave: Al Howland moved to approve the ORMS Maternity Leave of Absence from February 1- May 8, 2015, 2nd by Denise Day. Motion approved 7-0.

Motion to approve Policy JICL Student Computer and Internet for a 2nd Reading: Kenny Rotner moved to approve Policy JICL for a second reading, 2nd by Denise Day. Motion passed 7-0.

VIII. SCHOOL BOARD UPDATES:

Al Howland updated the Board on the NHSBA Resolutions. There were two new approved resolutions: Their policies will expire after five years. Right to know that tuition negotiations agreements could be in nonpublic session.

End 68 Hours of Hunger Committee: Maria Barth reported that the funds are still coming in. They have received \$15K to date in contributions for this fund.

Ed Charle announced that there will be full Sustainability Committee meeting on January 28th at the High School Library.

IX. Public Comments: Dean Rubine of Lee mentioned that two years ago there was a similar warrant article passed as Warrant Article 6.

X. CLOSING ACTIONS:

Future Meeting Dates: 2/11/15 3/4/15 Regular Meetings:
2/3/15 Annual Meeting Session I Deliberative
Session
2/17/15 Candidates Night

Kenny Rotner moved to enter into nonpublic session at 9:45 under RSA-91-A:3 II (a) Superintendent Evaluations. Upon roll call vote the motion passed 7-0.

Maria Barth made a motion at 10:30 PM to enter into public session, 2nd by Denise Day and passed with a 7-0 vote. Maria Barth made a motion to adjourn 2nd by Ed Charle. Motion passed 7-0.

Respectfully yours,

Laura Grasso Dobson
Recording Secretary