

Oyster River Cooperative School District

June 7, 2017

Oyster River High School

6:30 p.m.

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS: Denise Day, Sarah Farwell, Dan Klein, Kenny Rotner, Brian Cisneros, Tom Newkirk, Al Howland, and Michael Williams
Student Representative: Hannah Wilson

ADMINISTRATORS: Superintendent Dr. James Morse, Sue Caswell, Todd Allen, Carrie Vaich, Catherine Plourde, Jay Richard, Dennis Harrington, and Suzanne Filippone

There were two members of the public present.

I. CALL TO ORDER: By Tom Newkirk who welcomed new Board member Brian Cisneros of Lee. He is excited to be part of the Board and join the team.

APPROVAL OF MANIFESTS:

Payroll Manifest: #25: \$920,618.85

Vendor Manifest: #27: #145,846.49

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Tom Newkirk recommended moving the Siemens agenda item to the first district report portion of the meeting.

Denise Day moved to approve the agenda with the above revision, 2nd by Al Howland. Motion approved 7-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Robert Barth of Lee spoke about the Board's decision to move the September 20th board meeting to honor Rosh Hashanah. He feels it was voted on without much thought. Robert thinks that it sends a message to people of different faiths. He is respectfully asking the Board to reconsider their decision.

Mary Ellen Webb of Lee and is a teacher at Mast Way. The staff at Mast Way fully supports the Technology Integrator proposal and all it would offer to the students.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion to approve 5/10/17 Workshop Minutes, 5/17/17 Regular Meeting and 5/31/17 Manifest Meeting Minutes:

On the May 10th Workshop Revision on the 1st page ½ way down add: what is the difference between a standard and a competency?

Denise Day moved to approve the May 10th Workshop Minutes with the above revision, 2nd by Al Howland. Motion approved 7-0.

5/17/17 Meeting Minutes Revisions:

Page 3, 2nd paragraph replace “on the evening” with “High School PTO sponsored event called “places you will go”

Page 4, paragraph 6 second sentence replace “I don’t it’s” with “Maria does think its”

Page 6, Insert the following above paragraph 6

Possible Implementation Plan for Competency-Based Reporting in the Middle School

- 1. Grades 6 and 7 will implement the proposed reporting system in the 2017-2018 school year.**
- 2. The district will use appropriate communication outlets to inform parents of this change and the rationale for it.**
- 3. During the implementation year the district will use multiple approaches to evaluating this change, which will include: a) surveys of parents to determine if they find the reporting system informative and technologically accessible; b) surveys of students to determine if they find it informative and appropriate in terms of incentives; and c) focus groups of 6th and 7th grade parents who can describe their experiences with the new reporting system.**
- 4. At the conclusion of 2017-2018, the administration will report to the Board on this evaluation and adjustments that need to be made.**
- 5. During 2017-2018 the 8th grade teachers will continue with the current grading system practices. It is further understood that the 8th grade staff will fully participate with their middle school peers in all competency work including aligning assessment, reporting and professional development.**
- 6. In order to create as smooth a transition as possible between the middle school and the high school the 8th grade will be knowledgeable of and participate when appropriate in the 9th grade work related to competencies.**

Denise Day moved to approve the May 17th Meeting Minutes with the above revisions, 2nd by Al Howland. Motion passed 6-0-1 with Brian Cisneros abstaining and the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

May 31st Meeting: Al Howland moved to approve the meeting of May 31st, 2nd by Denise Day. Motion approved 6-0-1 with Brian Cisneros abstaining.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS, COMMENDATIONS AND COMMENTS:

A. District: Suzanne Filippone of the High School invited everyone to the graduation this Friday evening at UNH. There have been fabulous events happening at the high school and she encourages everyone to check the calendar for the events.

Carrie Vaich of Mast Way reported that for the last two years they have been fundraising diligently for the playground. This has been a great community effort. They have generously received an anonymous donation of \$14,000 and are ready to move forward with installation this summer.

B. Board: Kenny Rotner attended the performance of “Into the Woods” which was impressive. The Power of One Project demonstrated issues that they have a passion for and that they can make a difference. He also thanked Maria Barth for all the years she has given to the Board. He has always respected her opinion and her voice will be sorely missed on this Board.

Denise Day mentioned all the various exhibitions that were displayed at the high school during the Science Showcase. The quality of the projects were fantastic. Denise also mentioned the video “Journey into the Madhouse: Nellie Bly’s 10 days into insanity” that three students have created.

Al Howland attended the 7th and 8th grade Art Show. The vast amount of materials that they work with forms a great foundation for them. The 6, 7, and 8 grade music program was great. He also attended Dennis Harrington’s retirement party and it was a great outpouring of the community.

Tom Newkirk agreed that Maria provided great value to the School Board and she took on leadership in a very difficult time.

VI. DISTRICT REPORTS:

Siemens - District Wide Infrastructure Optimization Model:

Superintendent Morse introduced Siemens who has done a great job for the

District in the past six years. They are proposing an Energy Savings Performance Contract which is a budget neutral approach to make building improvements that reduce energy and water use and increase operational efficiency. By partnering with an energy service company, a facility owner can use an ESPC to pay for today's facility upgrades with tomorrow's energy savings without tapping into capital budgets. No capital is required and payments are made within the current budget and spread out through the desired finance period. The State of NH allows 20 years and the ESCO guarantees energy for term selected.

Tax Exempt Lease Purchase Agreement: The most commonly used lease arrangement by state and local governments is a tax-exempt lease purchase agreement. This is an effective alternative to traditional debt financing because it allows a public organization to pay for energy upgrades by using money that is already set aside in its annual utility budget. When properly structured, this type of financing makes it possible for public sector agencies to draw on dollars to be saved in future utility bills to pay for new, energy-efficient equipment and related services today.

They are asking for the Board's authorization to do an energy analysis in the District.

Kenny Rotner talked about the current Middle School condition. They are planning to give the Board estimates on various items such as the ventilation system at the Middle School. Superintendent Morse thinks that the documentation and data from them will prove invaluable to demonstrate the need to replace the Middle School.

School Board members asked how this was going to impact future facilities budgets, and if the SAU and Maintenance buildings would be included in the Audit.

Michael Williams moved to authorize the performance audit by Siemens, 2nd by Dan Klein. Motion passed 7-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

**A. Assistant Superintendent/Curriculum and Instruction Reports:
Grade 6-12 Math Committee Update:**

Todd Allen, Assistant Superintendent, reported that K-5 Math program has worked on implementing Eureka over the last three years. They have done a

great job in raising the bar. This year they have been working on the 6-12 math program. This has been a very comprehensive effort. Their focus for this year was to review the 6-12 math program to look at how all students can be supported.

Aaron Ward reviewed the current state of the ORCSD Math Program: There are currently 112 students enrolled from the class of 2021 in 8th grade Algebra compared with 73 for the class of 2017. There are currently 67 high school students enrolled in AP math classes compared with 30-35 four years ago.

Chris Kearney talked about the Oyster River Math Department's Mission Statement: The mission of the Oyster River Mathematics Department is to engage, support, and challenge all learners in the study of mathematics. Our goal is to provide an educational experience in mathematics that ensures students the opportunity to become college and career ready.

Todd Allen presented the Oyster River Math Department Vision Statement: In support of our mission, we are committed to excellent teaching, a well-designed curriculum, and a support environment for all our students. Students are challenged within the classroom environment to develop skills in analysis, reasoning, creative problem solving, collaborate learning, and communication as they gain knowledge of mathematics. This is achieved through maintaining an updated curriculum with current standards, making real world connections, incorporating technology and a commitment to continuous professional development. We maintain high academic expectations and support all students to realize their full potential through a progression of appropriately challenging coursework.

Key Elements of the Middle School Program:

Differentiated classroom environment focused on a rich Common Core based program.

Relearning and enrichment opportunities throughout the program.

8th Grade: Algebra or Pre-Algebra Math classes from the middle school are scheduled to allow maximum access to expert math support via differentiated instructional practices and bobcat time.

Key Elements of the High School Program:

Multiple pathways to success in the math program

4th year math experience
Supplemental Algebra supports
Math lab provides student's access to support as needed
Office hours' time/relearning time

The Math Committee had an in-depth conversation with the Board about the Grade 6-12 Math Program. Kenny Rotner asked about VLACS in high school: why are they doing it and how is their entry back into the school offered program. Todd Allen replied that some kids are doing great with VLACS and their entry back into the school offered program is smooth. There is a definite advantage to taking it in the classroom. Kenny also asked if we are identifying where kids are struggling and how are we addressing them. Todd Allen reported that in the Middle School, entering 8th grade, and making jump after algebra II, are two areas they have recognized and are working on.

Al Howland mentioned that the biggest concern coming out of the community is how effective our system is. Superintendent Morse mentioned that the work these educators have done has really moved the bar forward for the students.

B. Superintendent's Reports: Superintendent Morse noted that this has been an amazing three weeks in the school District with the events and shows. The high school is starting a new tradition where the graduating seniors will be walking through the middle schools and elementary schools that they attended as an inspiration to the K-8 students.

C. Business Administrator: None

D. Student Senate Report: The Student Representative reported that graduation is this Friday at 6:00. The seniors had their first rehearsal today. The Awards Ceremony for each class was held on Monday evening. The Student Senate elections were last week.

E. Other: Siemens moved to beginning of report section.

VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Draft Board Goals: This year the goals will be divided into two categories: monitoring/continuing goals and action goals. Tom Newkirk suggested a brief dialogue on them this evening and bring them back for approval at the next meeting.

Monitoring and Continuing Goals:

1. Authorize the administration to evaluate and report on the effect of the change in start time, including the impact on students and transportation.

Board revision suggestion: Add impact of parents.

2. Authorize the administration to evaluate and report on homework, master schedule and course load scheduling in high school to determine if any practices should be changed.

Board revision suggestion: The amount value and coordination of assigned homework.

3. Evaluate the effectiveness of the competency reporting system that will be used in grade 6 and 7 of the middle school. Report from grade 8 on whether to follow 6 and 7 or 9th reporting system.

Be informed of the progress on implementing competency-based education in the high school. Report on the competency based model impact on the high school.

4. To continue to use various media channels to inform the community of initiatives and achievements of the District with special emphasis on high school parents.

Board revision suggestion: To understand and explore new avenues of communication paths.

5. To receive reports on implementation of the expanded foreign language instruction in the middle school with special emphasis on high school.

Board Revision Suggestion: Where do they think it is growing?

6. To more fully engage the student body on issues of wellness and mental health.

Board Revision Suggestion: Engage community as well

Action Goals:

7. To authorize the administration to develop a new strategic plan that covers the five-year span of 2018-2023. Fall 2018.

8. To engage in a deliberate review process of the middle school facility with the goal being the choosing of a plan for renovation/construction by June 2018. (related to Goal 4) Month by month.

Kenny Rotner feels that the transportation system needs to be looked at and analyzed. Evaluate and look for changes that increase ridership and sustainability. Superintendent Morse thinks that they will need to contract out a study into this.

Committee Assignment Vacancies:

Facilities Committee: Dan Klein, Kenny Rotner, Michael Williams

Policy Committee: Tom Newkirk, Kenny Rotner, Denise Day

Negotiations Committee: Tom Newkirk, Al Howland, Dan Klein

NHSBA Delegate: Tom Newkirk

Strategic Planning Committee: Tom Newkirk, Al Howland, Michael Williams

Wellness Committee: Al Howland

Sustainability Committee: Brian Cisneros

Kenny Rotner moved to approve the above Committee Assignments, 2nd by Denise Day. Motion passed 7-0.

Request to enter into a contracted service for transition services for

Moharimet: Superintendent Morse explained that this would be a valuable tool for incoming Principal David Goldsmith to work with Dennis Harrington for the summer months July 1st through August 30 compensated at \$10,000.

Kenny Rotner moved to approve the above contracted service, 2nd by Denise Day. Motion passed 7-0

Consideration of moving Elementary Technology Integrator Positions from support staff to professional staff:

Superintendent Morse and Principal Vaich shared the plan to fund these changes:

Assistant Superintendent Allen has identified \$30,000 in grant money, that when added to the salary paid to the current non-teacher technology integrator, would give approximately \$60,000 to hire a technology integrator teacher at Moharimet.

Mast Way Principal Carrie Vaich is proposing that the current open library aide position salary, along with the current non-teacher technology integrator position salary be combined to create approximately \$60,000 to hire a technology integrator teacher at Mast Way.

Kenny Rotner moved to authorize the moving of Elementary Technology Integrator Positions from support staff to professional staff, 2nd by Denise Day. Motion passed 7-0.

VIII. ACTIONS

A. Superintendent Actions: None

B. Board Action Items:

Motion to approve handbooks for all four schools:

Denise Day moved to approve the handbooks for all four schools, 2nd by Michael Williams. Denise Day modified her motion to the two elementary schools only, 2nd by Dan Klein. The Middle School and High School handbooks will be approved at the next meeting. Motion approved 7-0.

Nominations: Kenny Rotner moved to accept nominations for athletic director \$78,500, a one year math position \$48,218, and a social studies teacher \$43,603 2nd by Dan Klein. Motion passed 7-0.

Policies:

Payment Manifest and Manifest Procedure DK

The Chair will appoint two members and in case of an absence the Chair will appoint an alternate.

Kenny Rotner moved to approve the above policy, 2nd by Denise Day.

Motion passed 6-1 with Michael Williams opposing.

Expense Reimbursement and Form DKC

Payroll Process DKA

Field Trip and Excursions/Procedure/Voluntary Permission IJOA

Kenny Rotner moved to approve the above policies, 2nd by Michael Williams. Motion passed 7-0.

Superintendent Morse is recommending that the Board appoint Michael Williams and Brian Cisneros to an ad hoc working group to review the manifest process and see if there is a more efficient way of doing business.

Kenny Rotner moved to approve the Superintendent's recommendations, 2nd by Dan Klein. Motion passed 7-0.

IX. SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE UPDATES:

Denise Day reported that the Long Range Planning Committee met and had a discussion around projections between Mast Way and Moharimet. There are fewer house closing this year compared to last year. It was suggested that someone from the Long Range Planning Committee sit on the future Middle School Facilities Committee.

X. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Dean Rubine from Lee thanked Maria Barth for her long and important service to our community. She has been a great moral compass. The music department is putting on the Silent movie this weekend at the Box Office.

XI. CLOSING ACTIONS

Future Meeting Dates:

6/21/17 Oyster River High School Library, 7/6/17 (Thursday) Manifest Review
5:30 – ORHS C120

XII. NONPUBLIC SESSION RSA 91-A:3 II (c)

Tom Newkirk moved to enter into nonpublic session at 9:55 p.m. under RSA-91-A:3 II (c) discussion of matters that are likely to adversely affect the reputation of a person other than a member of the School Board, 2nd by Kenny Rotner. Upon roll call vote the motion passed unanimously.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT:

Al Howland made a motion to adjourn at 10:08 p.m. 2nd by Michael Williams. Motion Passed 7-0.

Respectfully yours,
Laura Grasso Dobson
Recording Secretary