

Oyster River Cooperative School District

February 22, 2017

Oyster River High School

6:30 p.m.

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS: Tom Newkirk, Denise Day, Sarah Farwell, Dan Klein, Kenny Rotner, Maria Barth, and Student Representative Troy LaPolice
Not Present: Al Howland

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

There was four members of the public present.

I. CALL TO ORDER:

6:30 – 7:00 p.m. Manifest reviewed and signed.

APPROVAL OF MANIFESTS:

Vendor Manifest #19: \$143,241.59

Judy George, a fourth-grade teacher at Mast Way presented a short film by students that was entered into a competition. She talked about using technology and the students becoming good digital citizens. The students learned about creative commons and copyright. Susan Leifer a para/technical person at Mast Way described in detail the making of the video the students made of why NH is fantastic. They thanked Alexander Taylor for all his help with the fourth graders in making this video. The elementary staff encourages the School Board to make positions at the elementary schools available to help integrate technology with the students.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Will be addressing the snow days in the Superintendent's Report section of the meeting.

Denise Day moved to approve the agenda, 2nd by Sarah Farwell. Motion passed 6-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Robert Barth of Lee thinks that in general the School Board has done a good job evaluating the pros and cons of high school football. He was disappointed in some college studies on the impact of football. He has written two letters to the editor on the long-term effects of football. He was disappointed that the Board had not considered the research studies.

David Taylor of Durham encourages the Board and the voters to vote yes on Article 8. The District already offers a wide array of sports. The new field is

not designed for football. The equality of Title IX is a great concern. Football has an extensive risk of brain injury.

Sandra Hebert of Durham spoke about the recent amendment to Warrant Article 8 at the Deliberative Session. She knows that change can be hard but was disappointed at the turn of events at the Deliberative Session. She feels that the amendment is mean spirited, leaves a bad taste in her mouth and hopes that the voters turn it down.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion to approve February 1, 2017 regular meeting minutes:

Denise Day moved to approve the February 1, 2017 regular meeting minutes, 2nd by Dan Klein.

Revisions: Page 7: last paragraph: leave first sentence as is. Second sentence insert: "Superintendent Morse mentioned" before "the issue for the master schedule"...

Page 1 Under Approval of Agenda remove "PE Teachers"

The motion with the above revisions passed 6-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

Motion to approve February 1, 2017 nonpublic meeting minutes:

Insert before first nonpublic session:

Non-public session RSA 91-A:3 II (c) Student Matter

Insert before second nonpublic session:

Non-public session RSA 91-A:3 II (a) Negotiate Superintendent Contract/Evaluation

Kenny Rotner moved to accept the nonpublic meeting minutes as revised, 2nd by Dan Klein.

Motion to approve February 8, 2017 meeting minutes:

Denise Day moved to approve the February 8, 2017 meeting minutes 2nd by Dan Klein. Motion passed 6-0.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS, COMMENDATIONS and COMMENTS:

A. District: Dennis Harrington of Moharimet School mentioned that every year the school has penny day where everyone brings in pennies. This year it was for End 68 Hours of Hunger and they collected \$370.

Suzanne Filippone of the high school reported that scheduling is ending this Friday and counselors will be meeting with students about next year. February is end teen violence month. The Counseling Department has been talking to kids about healthy relationships. In April they will be working on a program about distracted driving and driving safety. On April 5th the Juniors will be taking the SATs and the Sophomores will be taking the PSATs.

Carrie Vaich of Mast Way reported that they celebrated Read Across America at the School this week. This has been a great week of celebration.

B. Board: Tom Newkirk thanked Troy LaPolice the Student Representative for doing a great job this year and many good things are coming his way. He also thanked Sarah Farwell for a great three years as an invaluable member of the School Board. It has been a privilege working with her.

Denise Day commended the High School PE teachers for creating the PE Classes and hopes that the students take advantage of them.

Kenny Rotner responded to an above Public Comment that Pop Warner settled with a parent because of a brain injury.

He also commended the men's swim team who won their divisional championship and the girls who placed third. He also commended the coaches for doing a great job.

It was requested to get an update on how the cooperative is working with Portsmouth on the woman's ice hockey team.

Kenny Rotner feels there needs to be a committee put together on homework and would like to keep this on the front burner.

VI. DISTRICT REPORTS

A. Assistant Superintendent/Curriculum and Instruction: Todd Allen, Jay Richard, and Suzanne Filippone are working with Consultant Mike Anderson to

create a baseline tool to get perception and reality data on homework. This is to have a starting point and they would like to have it done by April. Tom Newkirk thinks the Board would like to be part of this process. Todd replied that this is to establish a baseline and he will bring it forward to the Board once they have a starting point.

Todd is working with the Sustainability Committee. They will be surveying the staff and will be reporting to the Board.

The World Language Department is moving forward with the initiative to expand the department. They will be working on initiatives to make sure they are at the same starting point.

B. Superintendent's Report: Superintendent Morse reported that the Principal Search for Moharimet is going very well. The Moharimet Staff has been very engaged in the process and they have two great candidates for the position. He will be making a decision on Friday of which candidate he will be bringing to the Board in March.

We were invited to provide testimony to the Transgender Bill yesterday when the news of the bomb scare came through. It was a low-level threat but they still needed to evacuate and follow the process. The communication to the parents happened within an hour. The faculty and administration moved the students flawlessly to the middle school. The students did a great job and were amazing.

Superintendent Morse talked about the end of the school year. It is too early to make any decisions. In April, they can determine when the end of school will be. They need to be in session for 990 hours at the high school. He will put out a communication detailing this to parents tomorrow. Dan Klein mentioned Blizzard Bags as a possible future option for the District. Superintendent Morse said that it is a decision that would involve staff input. It is meaningful work that could replace a snow day. It has been tried in a number of school systems in NH and it needs an 80% participation rate for it to count.

C. Business Administrator: None

D. Student Senate Report: Troy thanked the Board and the Administrators for a great experience. It has been a privilege and a great opportunity. As a senate, they have initiatives they wanted to look through. The student handbook was one. There are three candidates running for his position and there will be an election on March 7th and the winner will take over at the next meeting.

E. Other: None

VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS

March 15th meeting: This is the day after the election and the new members will not be able to vote. Tom Newkirk will not be able to attend so there would be only four voting members.

Kenny Rotner moved to have a meeting on March 8th to replace the March 15th meeting, 2nd by Denise Day. Motion passed 6-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

Kenny Rotner moved to have a meeting on March 22, 2nd by Denise Day. Motion passed 6-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

High School Graduation Date: Suzanne Filippone told the Board they need to solidify a venue for graduation. If we keep the graduation date to June 9th they will have the required number of hours needed for seniors. She is requesting a June 9th graduation for the gymnasium at the University.

Kenny Rotner moved to approve graduation for June 9, 2nd by Dan Klein. Motion passed 6-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

2017 Transportation Schedule: Lisa Huppe reviewed the bus schedule draft with the Board. The proposed start time at the Middle School and High School will be 8:20 – 3:05 (ten minutes shorter per day) and the Elementary Schools will be 8:55 – 3:05.

Kenny Rotner and Dan Klein would like to see a comparison of ride time minutes for this year compared to the proposed times for next year. Kenny would like to review the policy on ridership time to ensure as many kids are using the bus as possible. They discussed possibly having a survey in the future to see if a common drop off place could further benefit parents.

Dan Klein has heard concerns about dismissal time and bus arrival time at the school. Superintendent Morse said that the Elementary Schools will need to be more efficient in their exiting of the building.

Denise asked if the middle school and high schools start five minutes earlier at 8:15 instead of 8:20 would it still work. Superintendent Morse replied that five minutes earlier could be doable if that is what the School Board would like him to look into it. The Middle School and High School would be open thirty minutes before the buses arrive for early drop off as they are now.

School Board Self-Evaluation: Tom Newkirk mentioned that this is required per Policy BAA. He reviewed the questions with the Board. He thinks that the process of formulating Board goals is too lengthy. Sarah would like Administration input at the beginning of the process. They often have the bigger picture and offer valuable input. Kenny Rotner has been impressed with how the Board works cohesively and the Board has spent a lot of time on the budget. Kenny Rotner did not feel that the Wellness Board goal and the Middle School Building had been addressed as much as he had hoped. Student Representative Troy La Police thinks that the Board has gotten a lot of student input on the goals. Dan Klein thinks ideally formulating the Board's goals during the school year is optimal because people are more engaged during that period. The greatest asset on the Board is the culture of mutual respect.

Superintendent Morse mentioned that currently the staff sets their goals in the summer. If the timeframe gets pushed back into March, they are focused on what they need to complete before the end of the year.

VIII. ACTIONS

A. Superintendent Actions: None

B. Board Action Items:

Motion to approve ORHS Coaches and Volunteers:

High School Volunteer Positions:

Noah Franz	Martial Arts Club
Natalie Bilynsky	Indoor Track and Field
Alex Johnson	Indoor Track and Field
Darnell Saravong	Boys Basketball

Paid Positions:

Terrill Covey	Boys Reserve Basketball	\$3,307
Erin Mullenix	JV Girls Basketball	\$2,569

Kenny Rotner moved to approve the above list of high school volunteer and paid positions, 2nd by Dan Klein. Motion passed 6-0.

Motion to approve KD & R Policy for a first reading: Denise Day moved to approve policy KD & R School District Social Media Website/Guidelines, 2nd by Dan Klein. Motion passed 6-0.

Sarah Farwell noted that not everyone uses social media and that it should not be used as a primary communication tool for notifications.

IX. SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE UPDATES: None

X. PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

XI. CLOSING ACTIONS:

A. Future Meeting Dates: March 8 Regular Meeting
March 22 Regular Meeting
Remove: March 15 Regular & March 29 Manifest

XI. NON-PUBLIC SESSION: RSA 91-A:3 II (a) (d)

- **Consideration of the acquisition, sale or lease of real property**
- **Superintendent Contract**

Upon roll call vote Kenny Rotner moved to enter into nonpublic session under RSA 91-A:3 II (a) (d) at 9:30 p.m., 2nd by Denise Day. Motion passed 6-0.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT:

Maria Barth made a motion to adjourn at 10:26 p.m. 2nd by Sarah Farwell. Motion Passed 6-0.

Respectfully yours,
Laura Grasso Dobson
Recording Secretary