

Oyster River Cooperative School Board

Regular Meeting - REVISED

Mast Way School

September 3, 2014

6:30 p.m.

Draft

School Board Members: Chair Tom Newkirk, Al Howland, Denise Day, Ed Charle, Kenny Rotner, Sarah Farwell, Maria Barth and Student Representative: M. Doody

Administrators Present: Superintendent Morse, Sue Caswell, Carrie Vaich, Todd Allen, Jay Richard, Carolyn Eastman, Dennis Harrington

I CALL TO ORDER – 6:30 p.m.

6:30 – 7:00 p.m. Manifest Review/Approval

Tom Newkirk noted that it was nice to have tonight's meeting at Mast Way. The next School Board meeting will be at Moharimet School.

II PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

III PUBLIC COMMENTS: Wynn Graves Moody is encouraging the Board to approve the End 68 Hours of Hunger at Oyster River.

Dean Rubine of Lee does not like the idea of the Pledge of Allegiance at the beginning. He thinks that the Pledge is basically indoctrination. He urges the Board not to have the Pledge.

IV APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Denise Day moved to approve the minutes of August 20th Minutes, 2nd by Sarah Farwell. Motion approved 6-1-0 with Al Howland abstaining and the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

Kenny Rotner moved to approve the July 16th corrected non-meeting minutes: 2nd by Denise Day. Motion passed 7-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

APPROVAL OF MANIFESTS:

Payroll Manifest #5: \$890,707.56

Vendor Manifest #6: \$566,572.87

District: Superintendent Morse announced that the Special Education Department was reviewed by the Department of Education and received great reviews. He commended the Special Education Staff for all their hard work and efforts.

Jay Richard mentioned that they are off to a great start to the Middle School year. The bathroom renovations have been completed as of today. September 16th will be the Middle School Open House.

Carrie Vaich of Mast Way welcomed everyone to Mast Way School. The students are excited to learn and the school looks fabulous. The gymnasium floor looks fantastic. Their first PTO event will be this Friday evening for ice cream and a picnic night. Next Wednesday will be a parents' only curriculum event.

Dennis Harrington of Moharimet commended his staff for all their work in getting ready for the start of the school year. He recognized Janice Williams and Fred Gervais who have recently passed away.

Todd Allen of the High School commended the Custodial Staff for all their hard work in getting the high school ready for the start of school. He thanked the Counselling Department for their efforts with Student Orientation before the start of school. It helped the new students feel more confident coming to school. The High School Open House will be September 18th.

Board:

Sarah Farwell mentioned on behalf of Kathy Baker at Mast Way who thanked the School Board for the great new gymnasium floor.

Kenny Rotner encouraged everyone to vote at the primaries next week.

VI DISTRICT REPORTS:

A Assistant Superintendent Curriculum and Instruction Report:

Carolyn Eastman reported that the Elementary Math Committee has been exploring different resources this summer. There are two teachers from each grade level working on this. Math in focus, Everyday Math, Singapore Math and Eureka Math are resources that are being examined. Intervention Tools have also been put in place.

B Superintendent's Report:

Unofficial Enrollment for Beginning of year as of 8/27 for MS/HS and 8/28 for MW/MOH:

Summary as of August 28th:

<u>Mast Way:</u>	283
Kindergarten	47
Grade 1	54
Grade 2	58
Grade 3	50
Grade 4	74
<u>Moharimet:</u>	410
Kindergarten	62
Grade 1	75
Grade 2	93
Grade 3	95
Grade 4	85
<u>Middle School:</u>	680
Grade 5	163
Grade 6	179
Grade 7	175
Grade 8	163
<u>High School:</u>	717
Grade 9	197
Grade 10	185
Grade 11	143
Grade 12	192

C Business Administrator

None

D. Student Senate Report: M. Doody reported that the primary focus is on spirit week which will be the week of September 22nd.

VII DISCUSSION REPORTS

Class Size – Policy IIB

Implementing District Vision Class Size:

A reasonable class size allows staff to implement adopted District vision.

Policy IIB

In an effort to provide the best education for all students in the Oyster River Cooperative School District it is the goal of the Oyster River School Board to support the following guidelines related to class size:

Kindergarten: Not to exceed 18 students

Grades 1, 2 and 3: Not to exceed 20 students

Grades 4 and 5: Not to exceed 22 students

Grades 6, 7, and 8: Teams of not more than 90 students per four person team.

Grades 9-12: In general not to exceed 22 students with the exception of those classes that may be above or below 22 students depending on curriculum, activities, space limitations, or for safety reasons.

The high school principal will be responsible for making these decisions.

Because resources are limited, it is understood that these goals are not absolute limits and will not exceed state minimum standards guidelines.

Classes below 12 students will be brought to the attention of the Superintendent for approval.

Superintendent Morse reviewed how ORCSD costs per pupil compare with other Districts.

Todd Allen detailed the scheduling at the high school as it compares to other school systems.

The Board had a lengthy discussion on The Class Size Policy IIB. Overall, the policy has worked fairly well. The Board reviewed the policy and made no recommendations for changes.

End 68 Hours of Hunger – Charge: Maria Barth reported that 10% of the students apply for reduced/free lunch.

Maria Barth moved to approve the following charge, 2nd by Al Howland. Charge: To assist students in ORCSD that face food insecurity on weekends and vacations.

The School Board will appoint six community members to serve for three years and a School Board representative. Terms are to be staggered the first year. Each year the Committee will elect a Chair.

The Superintendent will appoint one District Administrator and a staff member to serve on the Committee.

School Function: To identify students who would benefit from the program and to distribute the food. All student information is to be kept confidential by the school.

The Advisory Committee would facilitate fundraising, the packing of weekend bags, supervising of pantries and administrative functions.

There was a Board discussion and the law that anonymity and confidentiality must be preserved. Concerns were identified including ensuring that the anonymity and dignity of recipients is preserved, that the quality of the food being provided aligns with our District wellness objective and this new involvement not interfere with existing successful program. Superintendent Morse urged the Board to give this serious consideration. We are protecting every child's identity.

The motion passed 6-1 with Denise Day opposing and the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

VIII ACTIONS

A Superintendent and Board Actions:

Motion to approve FY15-16 Budget Goals:

Al Howland moved to approve the following FY15-16 Budget Goals, 2nd by Denise Day.

1 Given that the District has over \$3 million in unmet capital needs, that the technology plan is only 66% implemented, that the bus fleet rotation needs to continue, that negotiations with bus drivers and support staff have unknown costs, that text/academic resources must be placed in a predictable rotation, ORCSD will strive to keep the 2015-2016 operating budget to 3% or less.

This goal does not include cost increase or shifts from the State of New Hampshire beyond local control.

This goal does not include separate warrant articles.

2 The proposed 2015-16 budget will be analyzed to see if staff reassignment, the reassignment of funds, or other saving can be determined before adding new staff or programs.

3 Tuition funds will be used to maintain and enhance programs, offset capital costs and to lower tax impact on District taxpayers.

4 The proposed 2015-16 budget will support state and local standards, to create a predictable resource acquisition cycle, and to provide assessments that give common reports to staff, parents and community based on the aforementioned state/local standards.

5 The proposed 2015-16 budget will account for unique costs associated with the implementation of common core, the draft strategic plan, and proposed technology plan.

The motion passed 5-2 with Maria Barth and Sarah Farwell opposing and the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

Motion to approve 2nd read/adoption of Strategic Plan: Al Howland moved to approve the 2nd read/adoption of the Strategic Plan, 2nd by Denise Day. Motion passed 7-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

Nomination of ORCSD School Resource Officer for Durham and Truant Officers for Lee and Madbury:

Al Howland moved to approve Office Holly Malasky – School Resource Officer for ORHS/ORMS, Sergeant Michael Lyczak Truant Officer for Mast Way School, and Chief Joseph McGann Truant Officer for Moharimet School, 2nd by Kenny Rotner. Motion passed 7-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

Motion to sign the MS25/DOE25: Kenny Rotner moved to sign the MS25/DOE25, 2nd by Al Howland. Motion approved 7-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

Al Howland moved to approve for Policy JLCJ Concussions and Head Injuries for Adoption, 2nd by Denise Day. Motion passed 7-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

Motion to approve Policy JICH, Drug and Alcohol Use by Students: Ed Charle moved to approve Policy JICH as amended for adoption 2nd by Al Howland. Motion approved 7-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

Public Comments: Dean Rubine noted that inflation costs in New England is 1.8%. Congratulations to the Board on reaching the class size limits and reaching a nice size cost per pupil.

David Taylor from Durham noted that the target for class size guidelines is 10% below that number.

CLOSING ACTIONS:

Future Meeting Dates: 9/17/2014: Regular Meeting at ORMS
10/1/2014: Regular Meeting at Moharimet

NON-PUBLIC SESSION: RSA 91-A:3 II (c) KR 9:40 Kenny Rotner moved to enter into nonpublic session under RSA 91-A:3 II (c) to review and discuss a personnel request, 2nd by Al Howland. Upon roll call vote, the motion passed 7-0.

Respectfully yours,

Laura Grasso Dobson
Recording Secretary