

Oyster River Cooperative School District

Regular Meeting

June 6, 2018

Oyster River High School

7:00 p.m.

SCHOOL BOARD: Denise Day, Brian Cisneros, Tom Newkirk, Kenny Rotner, Dan Klein, and Michael Williams. **Absent:** Al Howland
Student Representative: Patty Andersen

ADMINISTRATORS: Superintendent Morse, Todd Allen, Suzanne Filippone, Sue Caswell, Carrie Vaich Roy, David Goldsmith, and Jay Richard

There were 5 members of the public present.

I. CALL TO ORDER:

APPROVAL OF MANIFESTS:

Payroll Manifest #22 \$920,050.76

Vendor Manifest #26: \$68,879,99

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Tom Newkirk recommended two revisions to the agenda: go into a nonpublic initially to discuss a personnel matter and the Board's Calendar.

Denise Day moved to approve the agenda with the above revisions, 2nd by Brian Cisneros.

Motion passed 6-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

Kenny Rotner moved to enter into nonpublic session under the RSA 91-A:3 II a, the dismissal, promotion or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him, unless the employee affected has the right to a meeting and requests that the meeting be open, in which the request will be granted, 2nd by Denise Day. Upon roll call vote, the motion passed 6-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

The Board re-entered public session at 7:20 PM.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS: Dean Rubine from Lee noted that he has attended a lot of great high school events in recent weeks.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion to approve 6/6/18 regular meeting minutes:

Denise Day moved to approve the regular minutes of June 6th, 2nd by Brian Cisneros. Motion passed 6-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

Brian Cisneros moved to approve the Workshop Committee Minutes, 2nd by Denise Day. Motion passed 5-0-1 with Michael Williams abstaining.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS, COMMENDATIONS and COMMENTS:

A. District: Andy Lathrop, Athletic Director, announced that the cooperative football proposal has passed 13-0. Next week on June 13th there will be an informational meeting with Coach Pafford from Portsmouth. It has been a long process, but we are ready to move forward. He will keep the Board updated on how many students from Oyster River will be playing as it gets closer. Practice begins on August 13th for fall sports.

Carrie Vaich from Mast Way commended Deb Hastings who ran the Mast Way Art Show. Each student has a piece of art work on display. Field Day with Kathy Baker will be on Monday. Pam Felber will be leading them into two expression sessions. On Tuesday, June 19th will be the traditional fourth grade breakfast. On the last day of school, there will be step up day with each grade. This helps to alleviate any anxiety that they may have. The building project is coming along nicely.

Suzanne Filippone, Principal of the high school, noted that there have been many events. The seniors have been very active on their senior trips. Graduation is Friday evening at 6:00PM and she hopes to see everyone there.

B. Board: Denise Day commented that there have been many events and they are just amazing. She thanked the teachers for all their efforts. It is a wonderful opportunity to see all their work.

Michael Williams spoke that their family is graduating from PEP this month. It is a great program in the District.

Tom Newkirk commended Sean Kelly for all the great work on Mouth of The River. It is very interesting and well written.

VI. DISTRICT REPORTS:

A. Assistant Superintendent/Curriculum and Instruction Report:

Todd Allen reported that he along with Superintendent Morse was invited by Jarika Olberg to join in a song at the Middle School Choral Concert. He thanked her for putting this together.

Next Gen Science: Assistant Superintendent Todd Allen presented the K-5 Science Curriculum: Aligning with Next Generation Science Standards to the Board:

Committee Progress to Date:

In the spring of 2016 a K-5 Science Committee was formed.

The goal for 2016-17 was to investigate K-5 Next Generation Science Standards to establish staff readiness and to identify shifts needed for full alignment with district curriculum.

During the 2016-17 school year committee, members attended conferences reviewed resources and engaged the K-5 staff in dialogue about NGSS readiness.

In the spring of 2017 the committee concluded that K-5 staff readiness for and interest in NGSS was high.

The goal for 2017-18 has been to align the K-5 Science curriculum with the NGSS Standards for a fall 2018 implementation.

The K-5 Committee, working collaboratively with all K-5 teaching staff, have completed the first state of NGSS alignment and are ready for implementation in the fall of 2018.

The goal for 2018-19 will be to provide the necessary professional development to staff and to acquire the necessary resources to support this curricular shift. Each grade level team will target one unit per year for full development over the next three years.

Practices in Mathematics, Science and English Language Arts:

Math:

- M1 Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
- M2 Reason abstractly and quantitatively.
- M3 Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.
- M4 Model with mathematics.
- M5 Use appropriate tools strategically.
- M6 Attend to precision.
- M7 Look for and make use of structure.
- M8 Look for an express regularity in repeated reasoning.

Science:

- S1 Asking questions for science.
- S2 Developing and using models.
- S3 Planning and carrying out investigations.

- S4 Analyzing and interpreting data.
- S5 Using mathematics, information and computer technology, and computational thinking.
- S6 Constructing explanations (for science) and designing solutions (for engineering).
- S7 Engaging in argument from evidence.
- S8 Obtaining, evaluating and communicating information.

English Language Arts

- E1 They demonstrate independence.
- E2 They build strong content knowledge.
- E3 They respond to the varying demands of audience, task, purpose, and Discipline.
- E4 They comprehend as well as critique.
- E5 They value evidence.
- E6 They use technology and digital media strategically and capably.
- E7 They come to understanding other perspectives and cultures.

Next Generation Science Standards:

Use observations to describe patterns of what plants and animals (including humans) need to survive.

Construct an argument supported by evidence for how plants and animals (including humans) can change the environment to meet their needs.

Use a model to represent the relationship between the needs of different plants and animals (including humans) and the places they live.

Communicate solutions that will reduce the impact of humans on the land, water, air, and/or living things in the local environment.

MS Competencies:

Todd Allen reported that they have been meeting several times this year and they would like to propose a 4-point rubric grade system, adding an exemplary category for grades 5-8 in the fall. Jay Richard detailed that they have worked on this for years. They would also like to implement a student led conference for next year. Teachers and parents will sit down together and work on goals for the upcoming year. It will be very informative for parents. Students will lead the conference directed by team teachers. The fifth-grade teachers currently have student led conferences.

Denise Day moved to adopt the competency system as presented above, 2nd by Dan Klein. Motion passed 6-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

**B. Superintendent's Report
Racism Policy Addendum**

Superintendent Morse reviewed the Racism Policy Addendum with the Board.

Michael Williams moved to approve the Racism Policy Procedure Addendum for a first reading, 2nd by Dan Klein. The Motion passed 6-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

Strategic Plan Summary:

Superintendent Morse reported on the Focus Group Process:

In an effort to expand stakeholder input regarding the Strategic plan, NESDEC, with the assistance of members of the Oyster River Cooperative School District and the Oyster River Central Office, conducted 9 focus group sessions during January and February 2018.

Stakeholder Focus Group Process:

The focus group session process included the following preliminary steps:

Introduction of NESDEC facilitators.

Brief statement regarding NESDEC's background.

Explanation of the determination on the part of the District Leadership and School Committee that it was crucial to gain community input concerning key themes that should be emphasized in the Strategic Plan.

Information on enrollment projections based on District demographics.

Listing and brief explanation of current District initiatives.

Explanation of Strategic Planning process.

Next the focus Group participants were asked to identify the following:

Key strengths which the District should maintain over the next three to five years.

Key challenges which the District must confront over the next three to five years.

Common themes were combined and then each focus group member was asked to rate the themes based on level of importance.

NESDEC Focus Group Preliminary Composite Summary – Oyster River:

Once the focus group sessions were completed, NESDEC reviewed the listings, identified and combined common themes, and totaled the points allocated to each theme by the focus groups.

The total point score for each of these is listed below:

Academics:	1544
Supporting all students Facilities/Operations:	643
Facilities/Operations:	610
Staff and Leadership:	597
Community:	408

Subtopics identified in each theme area:

Academics:

Consistency of curriculum.

Program expectations.

Core competencies.

Technology.

Extracurricular and enrichment options.

Staffing: K-12 collaboration and alignment, continued growth for staff and students, continuous improvement.

Communication.

Supporting all students:

Social emotional learning/mental health.

Equity and inclusion of all subgroups.

Diversity awareness and focus.

Health and wellness.

Student centered.

Professional development.

Staffing.

Communications.

Operations and Facilities:

Middle School facility.

Continuous improvement and upgrade of infrastructure and facilities.

Technology.

Staffing.

Communications.

Community.
Support and engagement.
Community resources.
Partnerships.
Staffing.
Communications.

ORCSD Handbook Summary of Changes: Superintendent Morse presented the intended changes of the ORCSD Handbooks.

Mast Way/Moharimet Proposed Changes/Updates:
Staff List.
of tutors in buildings.
Testing Results.
Lunch Schedule/Costs.
District Calendar.
PTO Board Names.
Policy Updates asked to be included.

Middle School Proposed Changes/Updates:
New Electronics Devices Policy.

High School Proposed Changes/Updates:
District Calendar.
Select new 21st Century Skill to be our theme for the year.
Staff List Update.
New Master Schedule Update.
Add a Restorative Justice Component to our discipline procedure.
Review Plagiarism Policy.

Denise Day moved to approve the above changes/updates in the handbooks, 2nd by Brian Cisneros. Motion passed 6-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

Election Venue Planning: Superintendent Morse reported that he talked with Todd Selig, Durham Town Administrator, about the possibility of changing the venues for election. ORHS remains the only local facility with the necessary size, proximate expanse of parking and internal resources available to accommodate voting for local, school, state, and national elections for the Town

of Durham and the Oyster River Cooperative School District. Superintendent Morse suggested having Todd Selig and Chris Regan attend a Board meeting to have an informed discussion around voting in the schools. Tom Newkirk discussed that people can bring guns into the schools while voting or even during parent conferences and that we need to do something about this.

Homework: Superintendent Morse reported that they had an excellent conversation with the high school staff at the work shop on homework. He drafted a memo expressing appreciation to the staff and students who presented on May 23 regarding homework. The mental health and wellness of our students and staff has been a priority over the past three years. To that end, we changed start time to provide the opportunity for more sleep, we are instituting a new high school master schedule that has the potential to influence student and teacher workload. We asked the faculties at both the middle school and high school to focus on the issue of homework as we moved forward.

Superintendent Morse also remarked that the choice model was supported by the Board and the master schedule presents amazing opportunities for the faculty. We don't know what the impact of the new master schedule will have on homework. A lot of the issue around homework is executive function. There was a conversation around consistency at the high school. It is easier to manage at the middle school with teams. They will be continuing their discussion on homework into the next year and presenting to the Board in April 2019.

Brian Cisneros moved to approve John MacArthur's intent to retire, 2nd by Denise Day. Motion passed 5-0-1 with Kenny Rotner abstaining.

C. Business Administrator:

Additional adequacy aid update: Sue Caswell, Business Administrator updated the Board on the NHSBA additional adequacy aid. This is a result of a miscalculation in the statewide assessments for school years 2015 and 2016. NHDOE worked with the legislature to draft and pass SB539 and payments are expected to be made sometime next week.

Durham	\$2787.08
Lee	\$2090.31
Madbury	\$2090.31
Total payment to the District: \$6967.70	

Middle School Laptop Lease:

Joshua Olstad prepared a breakdown of the proposed lease that will start in the 2018-2019 school year. The lease is for four years and at the end we will purchase the devices for \$1.00 each. This lease covers the proposed 1:1 laptop program for ORMS (700 devices) as well as the planned replacement of laptops at the elementary level (270) devices. He provided a breakdown that shows the yearly cost for ORMS as well as both elementary schools. The total yearly lease cost is \$103,929.68.

	Number of Devices	Yearly Lease Cost
ORMS	700	\$75,000.80
MW	130	\$13,928.72
MOH	140	\$15,000.16
Totals	970	\$103,929.68

Brian Cisneros moved to approve the lease as presented, 2nd by Dan Klein. Motion passed 6-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

D. Student Senate Report:

Student Representative Patty Anderson reported on the recent events in the District: last Monday was the undergraduate awards ceremony, senior art show was last week, senior awards ceremony is tomorrow evening. The 1968 concert was Sunday and Monday and was not just a concert, but an experience. The science showcase was last Monday night. The softball team made the playoffs. SALT had their first annual spring carnival last week. It raised money for the best buddies program. The NH Scholars went to a Fisher Cats game last week. Step Up day for everyone is on the 18th. Friday exams start on June 15th.

E. Other:

Youth Risk Behavior Survey: Ryan Long and Heather Machanoff presented the Youth Risk Behavior Survey update to the Board.

There are six types of behaviors that contribute to the leading causes of death and disability among youth and adults:

Behavior that contribute to unintentional injuries and violence.
Sexual behavior related to unintended pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV infection.
Alcohol and other drug use.
Tobacco use.
Unhealthy dietary behaviors.
Inadequate physical activity.

22.6% of ORHS students reported symptoms of depression. Females were twice as likely at 30.6% compared to males at (14.7%). This is lower compared to the seacoast region at 30.5% and state-wide at 28%.

Heather noted that they use the report to highlight topics of what the students are reporting and what areas we need to focus on. This is a community report and they would like to engage the community more.

Brian Cisneros asked how do you find students that may be at risk. Heather responded that the Connect Training approach is in place for students.

The Haven NH Sexually Violence Program are currently going to the elementary schools and talking to them. They are coming in next week to talk about what they can do in the middle school.

VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

School Board Meeting Calendar: There are three meetings scheduled for August. It was proposed that the August 1st meeting be adjusted to a manifest meeting and have the other two meetings in August as schedule.

Tom Newkirk moved to approve the above proposal, 2nd by Brian Cisneros. Motion passed 6-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

VIII. ACTIONS:

A. Superintendent Action Items: None

B. Board Action Items:

Motion to approve two middle school world language teachers for 2018-19 school year. Denise Day moved to approve the motion, 2nd by Brian Cisneros. Motion passed 6-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

**Motion to approve list of policies for a second reading:
Denise Day moved the following to approve for adoption:**

**JICJ - Technology Devices – K-8 Cell Phone/Personal Devices
IGE - Parental Objections to Specific Course Material
IHAM - Health Education and Exemption from Instruction
IMDA - Recognition of Our National Heritage**

2nd by Brian Cisneros. Tom Newkirk suggested a report a year from now on the how the cell phone policy is working. Motion passed 6-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

IX. SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE UPDATES:

Tom Newkirk reported that the Facilities Committee will meet on Friday to review the draft that Dan Klein has written. He is anticipating that it will be brought to the Board in July.

X. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Dean Rubine from Lee thanked the Board for approving the cell phone policy. He saw Grease and it was great. There is the silent movie this Saturday at the music hall and it always a great night and tickets are available.

XI. CLOSING ACTIONS:

A. Future Meeting Dates:

June 20: Regular Meeting ORHS 7:00 p.m.
June 27: Manifest Meeting SAU Conference Room 3:30 p.m.
July 11: Manifest Meeting SAU Conference Room 3:30 p.m.

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

Consideration of the acquisition, sale or lease of real or personal property which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties whose interests are adverse to those of the general community.

Kenny Rotner moved to enter into nonpublic session at 9:20 p.m. under RSA 91-A:3 II (d), 2nd by Denise Day. Upon roll call vote, the motion passed 6-0.

The Board returned to public session at 9:30 p.m.

Denise Day made a motion to approve funding to survey the property owned by the District, 2nd by Dan Klein. Motion passed 6 – 0.

Respectfully yours,
Laura Grasso Dobson, Recording Secretary