

Oyster River Cooperative School Board

Regular Meeting - DRAFT

May 21, 2014

6:30 p.m.

SCHOOL BOARD: Chair Tom Newkirk, Al Howland, Kenny Rotner, Sarah Farwell, Denise Day, Maria Barth, and Student Representative M. Doody.
Absent: Ed Charle

ADMINISTRATORS: Superintendent Jim Morse, Sue Caswell, Todd Allen, Jay Richard, Jim Rozycki, Carolyn Eastman, Carrie Vaich, and Dennis Harrington

There were 6 members of the public present.

CALL TO ORDER: 6:30-7:00 p.m. Manifest Review

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Video presentation from Lucas Schroeder an ORMS student on Editorial Contest NY Times. His video was chosen from 1000 that were submitted.

Dean Rubine – Academic focus vs. spending. The Board could have honored that request so the public could see who favored what.

APPROVAL OF May 7th Minutes: Kenny Rotner moved to approve the May 7th minutes, 2nd by Al Howland. Motion approved 6-0. Revision made on April 2nd minutes noting the end of meeting as of 8:32 PM. Revision for May 7th minutes, Superintendent Report: enrollment update for all four schools, not just MW and MOH, District Announcement: Graduation date incorrect should be June 13 not July 13.

Approval of Manifests: Vendor Manifest 24: \$291,090.96 and Payroll Manifest 25: \$738,758.92

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMENDATIONS:

District: Dennis Harrington recognized Jessica Whalen, Tracy Schroeder, Holly Burt and the 62 parent volunteers for their hard work involved in organizing the Day of the Sea field trip at the Seacoast Science Center.

Carolyn Eastman announced that there will be a District wide end of year celebration on June 14th 12:00 – 4:00PM at ORHS under the tent. All proceeds will go towards End 68 Hours of Hunger.

Todd Allen reiterated that Graduation is on Friday, June 13th at 6:00 PM and that invitations have been sent out. That the play “Oliver” is running Thursday, May 22nd – Saturday, May 24th. Power of One event is Thursday, May 29th and that there will be lots of great projects to view.

Jay Richard noted that Service Polooza has been moved to Tuesday, May 27. Bedrock Gardens – Noah’s Ark created by Joe Boucher and middle school students will be shown on NH Chronicle on Friday, May 23rd at 7:00 PM. Marie Cook and Abby Clyde were honorable mentions for the NY Times Editorial Contest.

Carrie Vaich informed the Board that last Friday’s professional development day was wisely used and that all professionals in attendance worked hard. She will be having a whole school meeting to recognize Memorial Day and appreciation to the PTO.

Board: Denise Day thanked Doris Demers for a lovely community dinner. Also thanked Principal Richard and Vaich for a tour of their buildings.

Al Howland spoke about “The Places You Go” senior event that students talked about teachers who helped them and how wonderful it was.

Tom Newkirk mentioned that Linda Rief, middle school teacher has a new book out titled, “Read, Write, Teach. Also mentioned that Nate Grove will be on a panel with him in Washington D.C.

Student Senate Report: Spoke of upcoming events that will be happening which will include student elections, goals for next school year and Froyo a sophomore fund raiser will be on Wednesday, May 28th from 4:00 – 6:00 PM

DISTRICT REPORTS

Asst. Superintendent/Curriculum and Instruction Report: Professional Growth Plan: Carolyn Eastman reviewed the Professional Growth Plan that will be submitted to the State of New Hampshire Department of Education. Some questions and comments raised by the Board were: time concerns, having a goal of multi model communication; number of faculty supervised and is it doable, educators owning personal/professional growth, align professional expectations. Possibility of bringing in mentors – peer to peer work. STAR – is there going to be a formal procedure. Math and Science represented? Goals – are they shared?

Motion to approve Professional Growth Plan for submission to the State of New Hampshire for approval: Kenny Rotner moved to approve the Professional Growth Plan for submission to the State of New Hampshire for approval, 2nd by AL Howland. Motion approved 6-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

Superintendent's Report: Yager Property: Superintendent Morse updated the Board on the status of this property and walked the property with a civil engineer. A soil scientist will be creating a report on vernal pools and cottontail habitats as to how much the property is buildable. Property valued at approximately \$600,000.

Elementary Enrollment Update: Still watching elementary enrollment. Jay Richard and Dr. Morse recommend addition of a 5th grade teacher.

Board discussed options pertaining to this request.

Motion to add a fifth grade teacher: Al Howland moved to add a fifth grade teacher, 2nd by Kenny Rotner. Motion approved 6-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

ORCSD Draft Handbooks:

Todd Allen stated that minimal changes were made. The two changes were the counseling department changes and working on attendance procedures. The Athletic Handbook change was on the granting of varsity letters which gives coaches more discretion.

Jay Richard stated that there is a start time change of 5 minutes to 7:35, and there is a library software change to Destiny.

Dennis Harrington made no reference to any individual change but did note that he has been working with Carrie to create a handbook of commonality with Mast Way.

Carrie Vaich noted that a link was added for on-line registration.

The Board expressed the following observations: page numbers missing, some did not have calendars included; thoughts on pledge of allegiance and digital copies need to be same as printed copies.

Motion to approve ORCSD Handbooks for all four schools: Kenny Rotner moved to approve ORCSD Handbooks for all four schools, 2nd by Al Howland. Motion approved 6-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

Master Schedule of School Board Meeting – Draft:

Maria Barth suggested that she would like to see that the master schedule include mandated items.

Tom Newkirk thought that it was a good idea and suggested that it go before the policy committee.

Motion to approve Master Schedule of School Board Meetings: Kenny Rotner moved to approve Master Schedule of School Board Meetings, 2nd by Al Howland. Motion approved 6-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

Board Goals for 2014-15:

Board reviewed and discussed the updated list of Board Goals. Concerns mentioned pertaining to: impact on specialist, all day kindergarten and the cost to implement, world language, and concern about numbers.

Motion to approve the Board Goals for 2014-15. Kenny Rotner moved to approve the Board Goals for 2014-15, 2nd by Al Howland. Motion approved 6-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

ACTIONS:

Motion to accept ORHS Assistant Principal resignation: Al Howland moved to accept ORHS Assistant Principal resignation, 2nd by Kenny Rotner. Motion approved 6-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

Denise Day thanked Sara Wotton for her years of service and wished her well.

Motion to approve ORHS maternity leave of absence for the 2014-15 school year: Kenny Rotner moved to approve ORHS maternity leave of absence for the 2014-15 school year, 2nd by Al Howland. Motion approved 6-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

Motion to approve Moharimet maternity leave of absence for BOY through November 14, 2014 school year: Kenny Rotner moved to approve Moharimet maternity leave of absence for the BOY through November 14, 2014, 2nd by Al Howland. Motion approved 6-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

Motion to accept list of ORCSD staff retiring June 30, 2014 participating in retirement incentive: Kenny Rotner moved to accept list of ORCSD staff retiring June 30, 2014 participating in retirement incentive in addition to approving the hiring of a School Psychologist and additional Math Teacher, 2nd by Al Howland. Motion approved 6-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

Jessica Whalen and Cathy Baker presented on “sports flooring” for elementary schools. Sports flooring is low maintenance and kinder on joints.

Board Members spoke in favor or against the sports flooring and costs associated with doing this. After an in depth discussion the following motion was presented:

Motion to consider approval for rubberized flooring at Moharimet and to add sports flooring to Mast Way in 2015-16: Al Howland moved to approve rubberized flooring at Moharimet and to add sports flooring to Mast Way in 2015-16, 2nd by Kenny Rotner. Motion approved 4-2 with Denise Day, Kenny Rotner, Tom Newkirk and Al Howland voting in the affirmative and Maria Barth and Sarah Farwell voting in the negative, the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

Jim Rozycki, Facilities Director introduced Alex Taylor to present on Remote Television in the Auditorium and Gym. Alex showed a power point presentation detailing the various aspects of this plan. Cameras could be controlled from anywhere in the building allowing for movement of Board meetings. Currently it is labor intensive to have a meeting outside the Board Room.

Denise Day asked if we could move this item to the next Board meeting.

SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE UPDATES:

Maria Barth stated that the new Policy Committee has met for the first time and established guidelines that will be followed for their meetings. She was nominated Chair of this committee and that they will meet regularly the 2nd Wednesday of every month at 3:30 PM at the SAU office to continue to plug away at the manual.

Sarah Farwell informed the Board that the Technology Committee met and have their goals done and will continue to meet to work on this plan.

Denise Day stated that the Long Range Planning Committee is meeting on Thursday, May 22nd.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Dean Rubine stated that the Class Size policy IIB does not say 18. Middle School equals 22.5/90 students

CLOSING ACTIONS: Future Meeting Dates: June 4th and June 18th Regular meetings.

Al Howland moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 p.m., 2nd by Kenny Rotner. Motion approved 6-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dr. James C. Morse, Sr.
Superintendent