

**Oyster River Cooperative School District**

**March 16, 2016**

**b ORHS Auditorium-REVISED**

**6:30 p.m.**

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

**ADMINISTRATORS:** Superintendent Dr. James Morse, Sue Caswell, Todd Allen, Mike McCann, Dennis Harrington, Carrie Vaich, Corey Parker, and Catherine Plourde

There were twenty-five members of the public present.

**I. CALL TO ORDER** at 6:30 p.m. for Manifest Review

Superintendent Morse opened the meeting. He is very pleased that the Warrant Articles passed across the Board.

**Election of Chairperson and Vice Chair:**

**Maria Barth nominated Tom Newkirk for Chairperson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Denise Day. Motion passed 5-0-1 with Tom Newkirk abstaining.**

**Al Howland moved to nominate Denise Day as Vice Chair, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Maria Barth. Motion passed 5-0-1 with Denise Day abstaining and the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.**

**Review ORCSD Policy BDB Board Officers/Board Organization Meeting and BBAB Duties of the Chairperson:** It was recommended that the Policy Committee review these policies.

**Welcome of School Board Student Representative:** The Board welcomed Troy LaPolice as the new Student Representative for the upcoming year.

**Motion to elect William Leslie as ORCSD School District Clerk: Denise Day moved to elect William Leslie as ORCSD School District Clerk, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dan Klein. Motion passed 6-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.**

**Motion to elect Lisa Harling as ORCSD School District Treasurer: Denise Day moved to elect Lisa Harling as ORCSD School District Treasurer, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Al Howland. Motion passes 6-0.**

**Motion to elect Dr. Katy Lilly as ORCSD School District Physician: Denise Day moved to elect Dr. Katy Lilly as ORCSD School District Physician, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dan Klein. Motion passes 6-0.**

## **II. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Dean Rubine of Lee congratulated the Board and District on a wonderful election.

David Taylor of Durham congratulated member of FORT and everyone who worked so hard on the Fields Warrant Article.

Adam Stewart a 7<sup>th</sup> grader in the District, spoke in favor of a cooperative football team. He has played football for five years.

Theresa Brady of Madbury would like to have the Board pass the cooperative football program with Portsmouth. Her son loves football and it has helped him greatly.

Jake, a student from Barrington, has learned so much from playing football and would like to attend Oyster River High School and play football.

Gabe Goodwin, an 11 year old student in the District, loves football and would like to play in high school.

Joseph Brady has been playing football for four years and it has helped him set goals. Would like to play in high school.

Krista Butts Lee and two of her children spoke and stated that these kids have a passion for the game. It teaches them responsibility, leadership. She urges them to give these kids the opportunity to play in high school.

Michelle Dunbar from Madbury read a letter from her fifth grader who plays football. He would like to play football in high school. She thinks that the benefits outweighs the risks.

Willy Ouellette from Durham is requesting that the Board make a motion this evening on a cooperative football program with Portsmouth. Our students need this opportunity to continue their love of playing football.

Robert Barth of Lee spoke as a citizen and physician and opposes the football proposal. Here we are redoing the athletic fields primarily to address issue of safety and they are considering a program which will increase injuries to students, most importantly permanent brain trauma or CTE. Half of all reported sports concussions occur in football and 33% of those in practice. He urged the Board not to approve this proposal.

A resident of Durham commented that he has played football his entire life and feels that this is a great opportunity for the District.

Ryan O'Brien has played football through school and feels that football is a very passionate sport and is a great opportunity for the District.

### **III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2016: Denise Day moved to approve the March 2<sup>nd</sup> minutes, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Al Howland. Motion passed 6-0 with the Student Representative abstaining.**

**March 3<sup>rd</sup> Start Time meeting minutes: Denise Day moved to approve the Minutes of March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dan Klein. Motion passed 6-0 with the Student Representative abstaining.**

### **APPROVAL OF MANIFESTS:**

Payroll Manifest #19=\$1,215,370.29

Payroll Manifest #20=\$778,919.45

Vendor Manifest #21=\$586,067.47

### **IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMENDATIONS**

**A District:** Catherine Plourde commended four advisors that founded Best Buddies in the District. They created activities with disabilities for students in the District.

Dennis Harrington of Moharimet commended the Enrichment Committee which organized a trip to the Krista McAuliffe Center in Concord. They have done a great deal of work in preparing for this field trip.

Mike McCann reported that this weekend is the One Act Play at the high school. He also commended the students for taking the initiative for getting out there and encouraging people to vote for the athletic fields. Friday, June 10<sup>th</sup> has been set as the graduation date.

Todd Allen thanked everyone who has been involved over the years who worked so hard to get the athletic fields passed.

He mentioned that the District has been working with DBRT on the recent passing of a student in the District. On April 5<sup>th</sup> there will be a Community Forum. The intent is begin a dialogue on this.

**B. Board:**

Al Howland saw the performance of Macbeth and it was absolutely amazing.

Sarah Farwell commended the students who stood up this evening and spoke. They did a great job.

Maria Barth noted the article in the paper today in which the budget for treatment and prevention was cut in half. She has read the book *Chasing the Scream* and highly recommends it.

Denise Day reported that the community dinner will be on March 24<sup>th</sup> from 5-6:30.

Tom Newkirk thanked everyone who came out to vote but especially those who do not have students in the school system.

**V. DISTRICT REPORTS**

**A. Assistant Superintendent/Curriculum and Instruction Reports:**

Fields Update: Superintendent Morse reported that they have had their first organizational meeting with the contractor who is in the process of creating a timeline and will share it at the next school board meeting. Because of the mild winter, they may be able to begin the project earlier than anticipated.

**B. Superintendent Report:**

Principal Search: Superintendent Morse reviewed the process of the Principal search. A committee of five has chosen the 6 candidates to be interviewed. The parents on the committee were chosen by lottery. The interviews will take place on March 22<sup>nd</sup> for the six candidates. They should be in a position to have a nominee for the April Board meeting.

Election Results: The track was approved by 68% and Superintendent Morse thanked everyone for all their work. The other Warrant Articles all passed as well.

**C. Business Administrator:** None

**D. Student Senate:** None

**E. Other:** None

## **VI. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**Football Cooperative with Portsmouth:** The Board had a discussion with Athletic Director Corey Parker on the proposed football cooperative with Portsmouth. Corey Parker confirmed that athletes would be fully covered through their SAU Insurance policy. The Board had a discussion with Corey on the proposed draft contract. The funding will not be coming from Oyster River District but rather the student athlete. They average about 50 student athletes in the football program. Because of the Division realignment, Portsmouth is now in Division I. With the addition of Oyster River student athletes it would enable them to sustain a full JV and Varsity Football Team. Portsmouth is a Division II School in every other sport but football. If the Divisions were to become realigned again to four divisions or more, Portsmouth would certainly be returned to Division II and the potential cooperative would no longer be valid. Corey Parker confirmed that the intended consequences of forming a football cooperative would be to start a football team in Oyster River.

**Maria Barth moved to put on the next ballot whether or not the community wants to form a football team. Being no second motion, the motion fails.**

Asked if Portsmouth cooperative doesn't work out long term are there any other teams that would be interested in forming a cooperative, Corey Parker replied that they have researched this and there is no other options at this time.

Practices: PHS Football Field Monday – Friday 3:00 – 5:30 p.m.

Cost: Cost will be completely funded by participants and or Oyster River SAU. The cost will range between \$500.00 to \$800.00 per participant. It will be based on a per player cost that would be derived by total team participants.

There was a discussion with Corey Parker on Title IX implications. Currently the District is in compliance with Title IX but if this cooperative takes place, and the numbers grow, the District faces possible implications of being out of compliance. One possibility would be to provide another opportunity for female students.

The Board asked Corey Parker if a decision could be postponed until the next meeting in April. He replied that it would not interfere with the proposal if this was postponed. The Board has opted to not make a motion this evening and will address it at the April 6<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

### **The Process of Board Outreach to Staff Regarding Late Start:**

The action plan is to:

- Meet with teachers K-12 in April
- Before meeting with teachers, the Board will develop common questions/script
- The Board will report out results in a workshop after April 20<sup>th</sup>
- The Superintendent will hold a community forum in May to gather community feedback
- The Board/Administrators will refine proposal over the summer
- A refined proposal will be presented in September
- The Board will make a final determination by first meeting in October.

## **VII. ACTIONS:**

**A. Superintendent Actions:** None

**B. Board Actions:**

**Motion to approve extension of Superintendent's Contract: Denise Day moved to approve the extension of the Superintendent's Contract to 2020 with a 2.5% increase in salary, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dan Klein. Motion passed 6-0 with the Student Representative abstaining**

**Motion to approve Administrative Contracts as submitted by the Superintendent: Al Howland moved to approve the administrative contracts of Assistant Superintendent, Business Administrator and Director of Special Services, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Maria Barth. Motion approved 6-0.**

**Al Howland moved to approve the rest of ORAA Salaries, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dan Klein. Motion passed 6-0.**

**Motion to nominate and approve Continuing Contract Professional Staff Members as submitted by the Superintendent: Al Howland moved to Nominate and approve Continuing Contract Professional members as submitted by the Superintendent as a slate 2<sup>nd</sup> by Denise Day. Motion passed 6-0.**

**Motion to sign MS-22 Form: Al Howland moved to sign the MS-22 Form, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Maria Barth. Motion passed 6-0.**

**ORHS Volunteer Coaches:**

**Denise Day moved to approve Daniel Rose Outdoor Track and Field Hunter Minicucci Athletic Trainer as Volunteer Coaches 2<sup>nd</sup> by Al Howland. Motion passed 6-0.**

**VIII. SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE UPDATES:**

Al Howland moved to continue the committee assignments as they were last year for the 2016-2017 year, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dan Klein. Motion passed 6-0.

Maria Barth reported that the End 68 Hours of Hunger is presently serving 27 kids in the District. There are a lot of wonderful people working to make this happen.

Dan Klein reported that there are some new drawings that were delivered today on the Middle School as the architect was onsite today with concept drawings as well as possible K-8 school configuration.

**IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Robert Barth Lee noted that many communities are trying to drop football or switch to flag football only. The School Board is charged with looking out for the health and safety of students not deferring to special interests at the expense of that charge. He is urging the Board to do the right thing and reject this proposal at least until the public might be polled by referendum.

Dean Rubine Lee thanked the Superintendent for being put on the interview committee for the Principal Search. It's an honor to serve.

David Taylor from Durham noted that the Middle School Building Committee is a Public Advisory Committee now that there is a board member on it.

Tyler Butts from Lee spoke about his love of football.

Krista Butts from Lee commended the kids who got up and spoke to the Board. She appreciates the Board listening to them with patience. It took a lot for them to get up and speak to the Board this evening.

Al Howland reported that full day kindergarten registration currently has 51 students at Mast Way and 48 students at Moharimet.

Denise Day would like an update of the Middle School Grading Competency Based Reporting as a future Board agenda item.

**X. CLOSING ACTIONS:**

**A. Future Meeting Dates:** April 6 and April 20 Regular Meetings at the ORHS Library at 6:30 p.m.

**XI. Non-Public Session:** RSA 91A:3 – None

**Non-Meeting Session:** RSA 91A:2 - None

**XII. ADJOURNMENT:**

**Maria Barth moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:05, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dan Klein.  
Motion passed 6-0.**

Respectfully yours,

Laura Grasso Dobson  
Recording Secretary