

**Oyster River Cooperative School Board
Regular Meeting**

June 18, 2014

6:30 p.m.

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

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

There were 9 members of the public present

I CALL TO ORDER at 6:30. Review of Manifests 6:30 – 7:00

II PLEDGE of ALLEGIANCE

III PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None

IV APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion to approve June 4th Minutes
Denise Day moved to approve the June 4th minutes, 2nd by Al Howland.
Revision: insert: Page 1 insert “and this” before should be stricken. Page 6 should read “Kenny Rotner asked about the transition process and specific alignment curriculum of incoming Barrington students.
Insert: Carolyn Eastman present under Administrators.
Motion passed 7-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

APPROVAL OF MANIFESTS:

Payroll Manifest #27: \$962,765.38
Vendor Manifest #26: \$167,992.62
Vendor Manifest #1: \$9,480.70

V ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMENDATIONS:

District: Todd Allen commended that Maegan Doody won the 800 meter run at the New England Championship this past weekend. Dominique Twombly placed 2nd in the 200 and third in the 100 meters.

Graduation went extremely well last weekend. He recognized the facilities department for all their work on a backup plan because of possible inclement weather.

Carolyn Eastman acknowledged the Oyster River celebration picnic last weekend and raised funds for Project 68. She thanked everyone involved for all their hard work and collaboration.

Carrie Vaich reported last Friday they had the traditional fourth grade breakfast. Field day was yesterday. The first showing of the expression sessions was today and will continue tomorrow.

Dennis Harrington announced that the fourth grade recognition ceremony tomorrow evening. Construction is going smoothly. He thanked the Board for all their work and support throughout the year.

Board: Sarah Farwell thanked all the Principals for giving her a tour of their buildings. It is appreciated.

Kenny Rotner congratulated all the students. Graduation was a great event this year. He also thanked all the teachers for their work.

Tom Newkirk commended the Middle School Jazz Band for their performance at the Portsmouth Music Hall.

DISTRICT REPORTS:

Assistant Superintendent/Curriculum and Instruction Reports: Carolyn Eastman reported that progress reports will be available on Friday. Printed copies are available upon request. She commended staff for all their summer proposals. There are 77 staff members participating staff development work this summer. Leadership team is meeting next week to set priorities for next year and also on the strategic plan.

Business Administrator: Sue Caswell gave the latest budget update. The fund balance is on track with enough revenue to fund projects that the Board has approved.

Student Senate Update: M. Doody reported that the incoming freshman came to the high school today for a tour and had a question and answer period by HS students.

ORHS Alumni Survey Results: Todd Allen gave the Board a presentation on the ORHS Alumni Survey Results.

The focus of the study was on the classes of 2009 and 2012. The survey was distributed via standard mail and then followed up by telephone contact. The questions were designed to provide a perspective on the program as a whole while at the same time to give specific feedback to individual curricular areas. The data collected from the survey generally reflects positively our program at ORHS but also gives us potential areas to improve upon. It is the intent to conduct a survey of this kind every two years in the interest of ongoing program assessment and improvement.

Post Secondary Choices by ORHS Graduates

Class	4 yr college	2 yr college	Work/Military	Gap Year
2013	76%	7%	13%	2%
2012	69%	18.5%	12.5%	n/a
2011	71%	16%	13%	n/a
2010	73%	8%	19%	n/a

This report will be useful in the upcoming accreditation process. Todd also noted that this survey cost approximately \$4,000.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Chinese Afterschool Program: Proposal to bring rich Chinese language and cultural opportunities to Oyster River elementary students.

No cost to the District;

Affordable, community-focused afterschool program at UNH, led by a qualified teacher with support from UNH student volunteers;

Includes sister-school relationship with a leading primary school in western China;

Prepares our children for opportunity and leadership in a global economy;

Possible only if ORCSD agrees to sponsor J1 Teacher visa for a Chinese Teacher.

Yusi Turell, Josh Jenkins, and Jessie Jacobs gave an overview of the proposed presentation of the Chinese Afterschool Program to the Board.

Key Elements of the Proposed Program:

Age appropriate introduction to Chinese language and culture, led by a qualified Chinese teacher with support from UNH student volunteers;
Two days per week;
Held on UNH campus;
Direct busing from the elementary schools;
Nominal fee for attending families

Kenny Rotner moved to support the concept of the creation of the Chinese afterschool program including seeking the J1 Visa, 2nd by Al Howland. Motion approved 7-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

The Board had a discussion on possibly funding the Remote Television and/or New Flooring for Mast Way Gymnasium Floor: The gymnasium flooring at Mast Way cost is \$40K.

There will be a technology plan formed in the fall. The remote television could be implemented into the budgeting process this fall with the technology plan.

Denise Day moved to approve a new gymnasium floor at Mast Way to be the same as Moharimet, 2nd by Al Howland. Motion approved 5-2 with Sarah Farwell and Maria Barth opposing. The Student Representative voted in the affirmative.

ACTIONS:

**Motion to affirm the following hires in the District:
Assistant Principal/Dean of Faculty at ORHS Mark Milliken**

**Andrea Lawrence Middle School Science
Chris Kearney High School Math Teacher
Lisa Hallbach High School Math Teacher**

Al Howland moved to affirm the above hires in the District, 2nd by Kenny Rotner. Motion approved 7-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE UPDATES:

Maria Barth reported that the Policy Committee has been meeting and working hard on policies.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

Maria Barth would like to discuss a comparison group for Administrators placed on a future agenda.

Kenny Rotner moved to accept the revised School Board meeting dates to reflect the August 20th School Board meeting, 2nd by Denise Day. Motion approved 7-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

CLOSING ATIONS:

Future Meeting Dates: July 9th Manifest Review Meeting 5:30 p.m. C120
July 16th Regular meeting

Maria Barth moved to adjourn the School Board Meeting at 8:55 p.m., 2nd by Al Howland. Motion approved 7-0 with the Student Representative voting in the affirmative.

Respectfully yours,

Laura Grasso Dobson
Recording Secretary